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✓ PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM

—OF—

JOHNSON AND PAWNEE COUNTIES, NEBRASKA,

CONTAINING

Full Page Portraits and Biographical Sketches of Prominent
and Representative Citizens of the County,

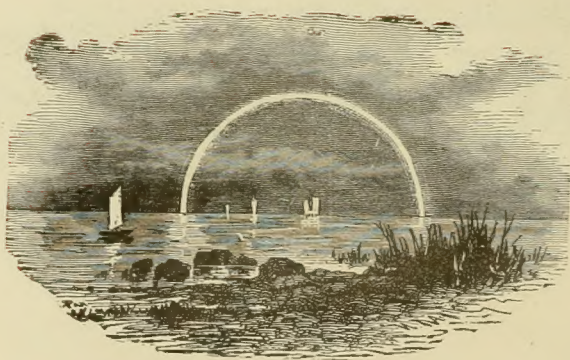
TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF ALL THE GOVERNORS OF THE STATE, AND
OF THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES.

✓
CHICAGO:
CHAPMAN BROTHERS.

1889.





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PREFACE.



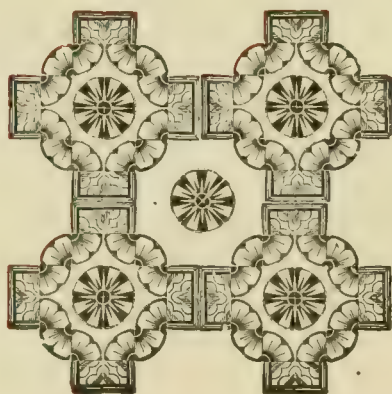
THE greatest of English historians, MACAULEY, and one of the most brilliant writers of the past century, has said: "The history of a country is best told in a record of the lives of its people." In conformity with this idea the PORTRAIT AND BIOGRAPHICAL ALBUM of this county has been prepared. Instead of going to musty records, and taking therefrom dry statistical matter that can be appreciated by but few, our corps of writers have gone to the people, the men and women who have, by their enterprise and industry, brought the county to a rank second to none among those comprising this great and noble State, and from their lips have the story of their life struggles. No more interesting or instructive matter could be presented to an intelligent public. In this volume will be found a record of many whose lives are worthy the imitation of coming generations. It tells how some, commencing life in poverty, by industry and economy have accumulated wealth. It tells how others, with limited advantages for securing an education, have become learned men and women, with an influence extending throughout the length and breadth of the land. It tells of men who have risen from the lower walks of life to eminence as statesmen, and whose names have become famous. It tells of those in every walk in life who have striven to succeed, and records how that success has usually crowned their efforts. It tells also of many, very many, who, not seeking the applause of the world, have pursued "the even tenor of their way," content to have it said of them as Christ said of the woman performing a deed of mercy—"they have done what they could." It tells how that many in the pride and strength of young manhood left the plow and the anvil, the lawyer's office and the counting-room, left every trade and profession, and at their country's call went forth valiantly "to do or die," and how through their efforts the Union was restored and peace once more reigned in the land. In the life of every man and of every woman is a lesson that should not be lost upon those who follow after.

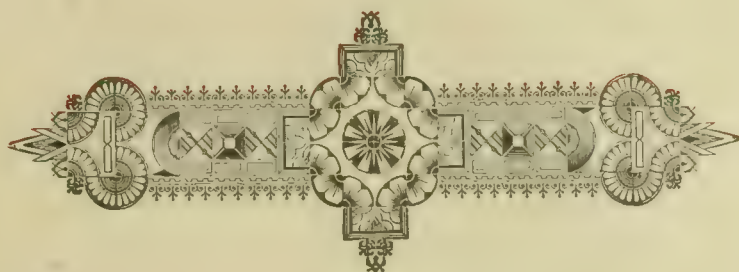
Coming generations will appreciate this volume and preserve it as a sacred treasure, from the fact that it contains so much that would never find its way into public records, and which would otherwise be inaccessible. Great care has been taken in the compilation of the work and every opportunity possible given to those represented to insure correctness in what has been written, and the publishers flatter themselves that they give to their readers a work with few errors of consequence. In addition to the biographical sketches, portraits of a number of representative citizens are given.

The faces of some, and biographical sketches of many, will be missed in this volume. For this the publishers are not to blame. Not having a proper conception of the work, some refused to give the information necessary to compile a sketch, while others were indifferent. Occasionally some member of the family would oppose the enterprise, and on account of such opposition the support of the interested one would be withheld. In a few instances men could never be found, though repeated calls were made at their residence or place of business.

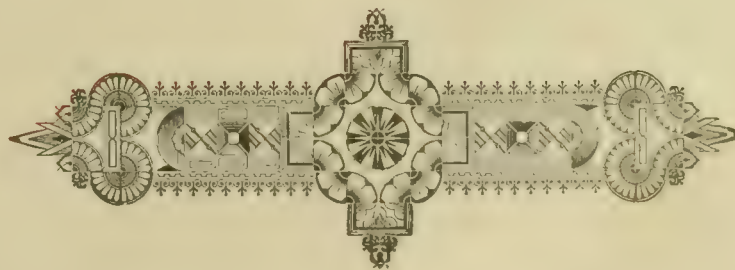
CHICAGO, March, 1889.

CHAPMAN BROS.

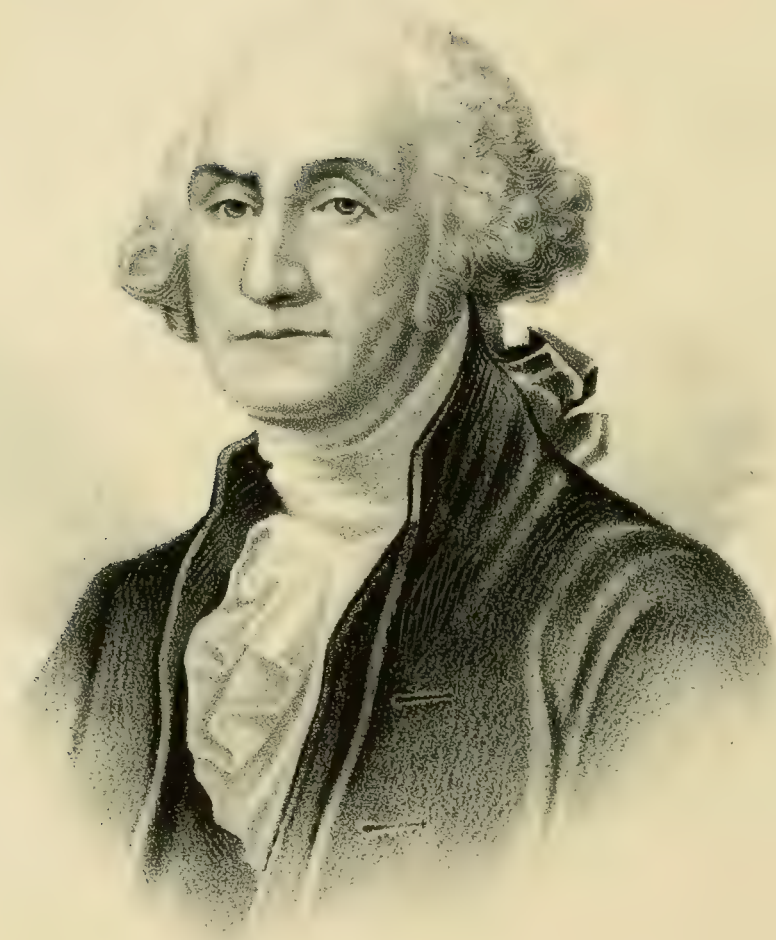




PRESIDENTS.







George Washington



GEORGE WASHINGTON.



HE Father of our Country was born in Westmorland Co., Va., Feb. 22, 1732. His parents were Augustine and Mary (Ball) Washington. The family to which he belonged has not been satisfactorily traced in England. His great-grandfather, John Washington, emigrated to Virginia about 1657, and became a prosperous planter. He had two sons, Lawrence and John. The former married Mildred Warner and had three children, John, Augustine and Mildred. Augustine, the father of George, first married Jane Butler, who bore him four children, two of whom, Lawrence and Augustine, reached maturity. Of six children by his second marriage, George was the eldest, the others being Betty, Samuel, John Augustine, Charles and Mildred.

Augustine Washington, the father of George, died in 1743, leaving a large landed property. To his eldest son, Lawrence, he bequeathed an estate on the Patomac, afterwards known as Mount Vernon, and to George he left the parental residence. George received only such education as the neighborhood schools afforded, save for a short time after he left school, when he received private instruction in mathematics. His spelling was rather defective.

Remarkable stories are told of his great physical strength and development at an early age. He was an acknowledged leader among his companions, and was early noted for that nobleness of character, fairness and veracity which characterized his whole life.

When George was 14 years old he had a desire to go to sea, and a midshipman's warrant was secured for him, but through the opposition of his mother the idea was abandoned. Two years later he was appointed surveyor to the immense estate of Lord Fairfax. In this business he spent three years in a rough frontier life, gaining experience which afterwards proved very essential to him. In 1751, though only 19 years of age, he was appointed adjutant with the rank of major in the Virginia militia, then being trained for active service against the French and Indians. Soon after this he sailed to the West Indies with his brother Lawrence, who went there to restore his health. They soon returned, and in the summer of 1752 Lawrence died, leaving a large fortune to an infant daughter who did not long survive him. On her demise the estate of Mount Vernon was given to George.

Upon the arrival of Robert Dinwiddie, as Lieutenant-Governor of Virginia, in 1752, the militia was reorganized, and the province divided into four military districts, of which the northern was assigned to Washington as adjutant general. Shortly after this a very perilous mission was assigned him and accepted, which others had refused. This was to proceed to the French post near Lake Erie in Northwestern Pennsylvania. The distance to be traversed was between 500 and 600 miles. Winter was at hand, and the journey was to be made without military escort, through a territory occupied by Indians. The

trip was a perilous one, and several times he came near losing his life, yet he returned in safety and furnished a full and useful report of his expedition. A regiment of 300 men was raised in Virginia and put in command of Col. Joshua Fry, and Major Washington was commissioned lieutenant-colonel. Active war was then begun against the French and Indians, in which Washington took a most important part. In the memorable event of July 9, 1755, known as Braddock's defeat, Washington was almost the only officer of distinction who escaped from the calamities of the day with life and honor. The other aids of Braddock were disabled early in the action, and Washington alone was left in that capacity on the field. In a letter to his brother he says; "I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet I escaped unhurt, though death was leveling my companions on every side." An Indian sharpshooter said he was not born to be killed by a bullet, for he had taken direct aim at him seventeen times, and failed to hit him.

After having been five years in the military service, and vainly sought promotion in the royal army, he took advantage of the fall of Fort Duquesne and the expulsion of the French from the valley of the Ohio, to resign his commission. Soon after he entered the Legislature, where, although not a leader, he took an active and important part. January 17, 1759, he married Mrs. Martha (Dandridge) Custis, the wealthy widow of John Parke Custis.

When the British Parliament had closed the port of Boston, the cry went up throughout the provinces that "The cause of Boston is the cause of us all." It was then, at the suggestion of Virginia, that a Congress of all the colonies was called to meet at Philadelphia, Sept. 5, 1774, to secure their common liberties, peaceably if possible. To this Congress Col. Washington was sent as a delegate. On May 10, 1775, the Congress re-assembled, when the hostile intentions of England were plainly apparent. The battles of Concord and Lexington had been fought. Among the first acts of this Congress was the election of a commander-in-chief of the colonial forces. This high and responsible office was conferred upon Washington, who was still a member of the Congress. He accepted it on June 19, but upon the express condition that he receive no salary. He would keep an exact account of expenses and expect Congress to pay them and nothing more. It is not the object of this sketch to trace the military acts of Washington, to whom the fortunes and liberties of the people of this country were so long confided. The war was conducted by him under every possible disadvantage, and while his forces often met with reverses, yet he overcame every obstacle, and after seven years of heroic devotion and matchless skill he gained liberty for the greatest nation of earth. On Dec. 23, 1783, Washington, in a parting address of surpassing beauty, resigned his

commission as commander-in-chief of the army to the Continental Congress sitting at Annapolis. He retired immediately to Mount Vernon and resumed his occupation as a farmer and planter, shunning all connection with public life.

In February, 1789, Washington was unanimously elected President. In his presidential career he was subject to the peculiar trials incidental to a new government; trials from lack of confidence on the part of other governments; trials from want of harmony between the different sections of our own country; trials from the impoverished condition of the country, owing to the war and want of credit; trials from the beginnings of party strife. He was no partisan. His clear judgment could discern the golden mean; and while perhaps this alone kept our government from sinking at the very outset, it left him exposed to attacks from both sides, which were often bitter and very annoying.

At the expiration of his first term he was unanimously re-elected. At the end of this term many were anxious that he be re-elected, but he absolutely refused a third nomination. On the fourth of March, 1797, at the expiration of his second term as President, he returned to his home, hoping to pass there his few remaining years free from the annoyances of public life. Later in the year, however, his repose seemed likely to be interrupted by war with France. At the prospect of such a war he was again urged to take command of the armies. He chose his subordinate officers and left to them the charge of matters in the field, which he superintended from his home. In accepting the command he made the reservation that he was not to be in the field until it was necessary. In the midst of these preparations his life was suddenly cut off. December 12, he took a severe cold from a ride in the rain, which, settling in his throat, produced inflammation, and terminated fatally on the night of the fourteenth. On the eighteenth his body was borne with military honors to its final resting place, and interred in the family vault at Mount Vernon.

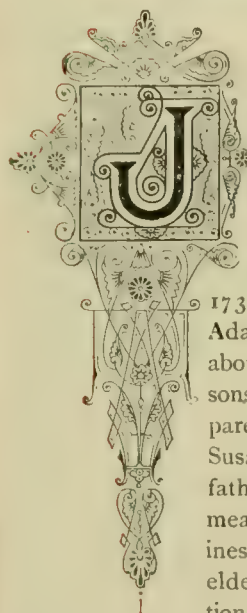
Of the character of Washington it is impossible to speak but in terms of the highest respect and admiration. The more we see of the operations of our government, and the more deeply we feel the difficulty of uniting all opinions in a common interest, the more highly we must estimate the force of his talent and character, which have been able to challenge the reverence of all parties, and principles, and nations, and to win a fame as extended as the limits of the globe, and which we cannot but believe will be as lasting as the existence of man.

The person of Washington was unusually tan, erect and well proportioned. His muscular strength was great. His features were of a beautiful symmetry. He commanded respect without any appearance of haughtiness, and ever serious without being dull.



John Adams

JOHN ADAMS.



JOHN ADAMS, the second President and the first Vice-President of the United States, was born in Braintree (now Quincy), Mass., and about ten miles from Boston, Oct. 19, 1735. His great-grandfather, Henry Adams, emigrated from England about 1640, with a family of eight sons, and settled at Braintree. The parents of John were John and Susannah (Boylston) Adams. His father was a farmer of limited means, to which he added the business of shoemaking. He gave his eldest son, John, a classical education at Harvard College. John graduated in 1755, and at once took charge of the school in Worcester, Mass. This he found but a "school of affliction," from which he endeavored to gain relief by devoting himself, in addition, to the study of law. For this purpose he placed himself under the tuition of the only lawyer in the town. He had thought seriously of the clerical profession but seems to have been turned from this by what he termed "the frightful engines of ecclesiastical councils, of diabolical malice, and Calvinistic good nature," of the operations of which he had been a witness in his native town. He was well fitted for the legal profession, possessing a clear, sonorous voice, being ready and fluent of speech, and having quick perceptive powers. He gradually gained practice, and in 1764 married Abigail Smith, a daughter of a minister, and a lady of superior intelligence. Shortly after his marriage, (1765), the attempt of Parliamentary taxation turned him from law to politics. He took initial steps toward holding a town meeting, and the resolu-

tions he offered on the subject became very popular throughout the Province, and were adopted word for word by over forty different towns. He moved to Boston in 1768, and became one of the most courageous and prominent advocates of the popular cause, and was chosen a member of the General Court (the Legislature) in 1770.

Mr. Adams was chosen one of the first delegates from Massachusetts to the first Continental Congress, which met in 1774. Here he distinguished himself by his capacity for business and for debate, and advocated the movement for independence against the majority of the members. In May, 1776, he moved and carried a resolution in Congress that the Colonies should assume the duties of self-government. He was a prominent member of the committee of five appointed June 11, to prepare a declaration of independence. This article was drawn by Jefferson, but on Adams devolved the task of battling it through Congress in a three days debate.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence was passed, while his soul was yet warm with the glow of excited feeling, he wrote a letter to his wife, which, as we read it now, seems to have been dictated by the spirit of prophecy. "Yesterday," he says, "the greatest question was decided that ever was debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed without one dissenting colony, 'that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states.' The day is passed. The fourth of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations, as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance by solemn acts of devotion to Almighty God. It ought to be solemnized with pomp, shows,

games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires, and illuminations from one end of the continent to the other, from this time forward for ever. You will think me transported with enthusiasm, but I am not. I am well aware of the toil, and blood and treasure, that it will cost to maintain this declaration, and support and defend these States; yet, through all the gloom, I can see the rays of light and glory. I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph, although you and I may rue, which I hope we shall not."

In November, 1777, Mr. Adams was appointed a delegate to France, and to co-operate with Benjamin Franklin and Arthur Lee, who were then in Paris, in the endeavor to obtain assistance in arms and money from the French Government. This was a severe trial to his patriotism, as it separated him from his home, compelled him to cross the ocean in winter, and exposed him to great peril of capture by the British cruisers, who were seeking him. He left France June 17, 1779. In September of the same year he was again chosen to go to Paris, and there hold himself in readiness to negotiate a treaty of peace and of commerce with Great Britain, as soon as the British Cabinet might be found willing to listen to such proposals. He sailed for France in November, from there he went to Holland, where he negotiated important loans and formed important commercial treaties.

Finally a treaty of peace with England was signed Jan. 21, 1783. The re-action from the excitement, toil and anxiety through which Mr. Adams had passed threw him into a fever. After suffering from a continued fever and becoming feeble and emaciated he was advised to go to England to drink the waters of Bath. While in England, still drooping and desponding, he received dispatches from his own government urging the necessity of his going to Amsterdam to negotiate another loan. It was winter, his health was delicate, yet he immediately set out, and through storm, on sea, on horseback and foot, he made the trip.

February 24, 1785, Congress appointed Mr. Adams envoy to the Court of St. James. Here he met face to face the King of England, who had so long regarded him as a traitor. As England did not condescend to appoint a minister to the United States, and as Mr. Adams felt that he was accomplishing but little, he sought permission to return to his own country, where he arrived in June, 1788.

When Washington was first chosen President, John Adams, rendered illustrious by his signal services at home and abroad, was chosen Vice President. Again at the second election of Washington as President, Adams was chosen Vice President. In 1796, Washington retired from public life, and Mr. Adams was elected President, though not without much opposition. Serving in this office four years, he was succeeded by Mr. Jefferson, his opponent in politics.

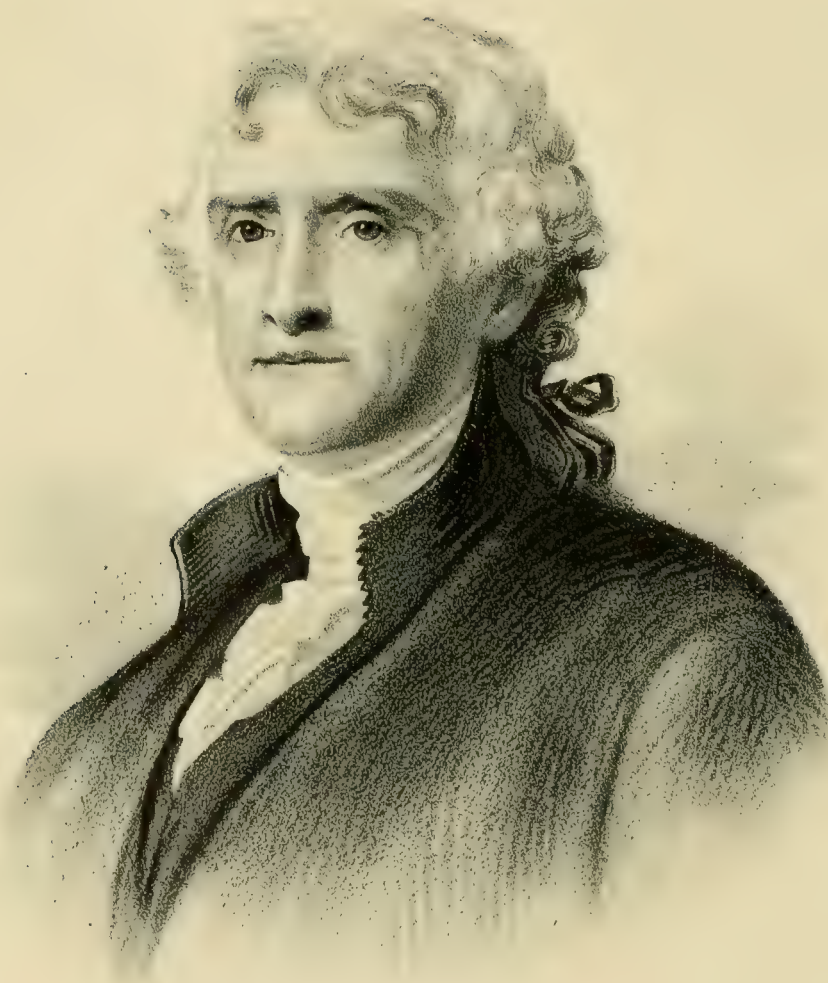
While Mr. Adams was Vice President the great

French Revolution shook the continent of Europe, and it was upon this point which he was at issue with the majority of his countrymen led by Mr. Jefferson. Mr. Adams felt no sympathy with the French people in their struggle, for he had no confidence in their power of self-government, and he utterly abhorred the class of atheist philosophers who he claimed caused it. On the other hand Jefferson's sympathies were strongly enlisted in behalf of the French people. Hence originated the alienation between these distinguished men, and two powerful parties were thus soon organized, Adams at the head of the one whose sympathies were with England and Jefferson led the other in sympathy with France.

The world has seldom seen a spectacle of more moral beauty and grandeur, than was presented by the old age of Mr. Adams. The violence of party feeling had died away, and he had begun to receive that just appreciation which, to most men, is not accorded till after death. No one could look upon his venerable form, and think of what he had done and suffered, and how he had given up all the prime and strength of his life to the public good, without the deepest emotion of gratitude and respect. It was his peculiar good fortune to witness the complete success of the institution which he had been so active in creating and supporting. In 1824, his cup of happiness was filled to the brim, by seeing his son elevated to the highest station in the gift of the people.

The fourth of July, 1826, which completed the half century since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, arrived, and there were but three of the signers of that immortal instrument left upon the earth to hail its morning light. And, as it is well known, on that day two of these finished their earthly pilgrimage, a coincidence so remarkable as to seem miraculous. For a few days before Mr. Adams had been rapidly failing, and on the morning of the fourth he found himself too weak to rise from his bed. On being requested to name a toast for the customary celebration of the day, he exclaimed "INDEPENDENCE FOREVER." When the day was ushered in, by the ringing of bells and the firing of cannons, he was asked by one of his attendants if he knew what day it was? He replied, "O yes; it is the glorious fourth of July—God bless it—God bless you all." In the course of the day he said, "It is a great and glorious day." The last words he uttered were, "Jefferson survives." But he had, at one o'clock, resigned his spirit into the hands of his God.

The personal appearance and manners of Mr. Adams were not particularly prepossessing. His face, as his portrait manifests, was intellectual and expressive, but his figure was low and ungraceful, and his manners were frequently abrupt and uncourteous. He had neither the lofty dignity of Washington, nor the engaging elegance and gracefulness which marked the manners and address of Jefferson.



Th. Jefferson



THOMAS JEFFERSON.



THOMAS JEFFERSON was born April 2, 1743, at Shadwell, Albermarle county, Va. His parents were Peter and Jane (Randolph) Jefferson, the former a native of Wales, and the latter born in London. To them were born six daughters and two sons, of whom Thomas was the elder. When 14 years of age his father died. He received a most liberal education, having been kept diligently at school from the time he was five years of age. In 1760 he entered William and Mary College. Williamsburg was then the seat of the Colonial Court, and it was the obode of fashion and splendor. Young Jefferson, who was then 17 years old, lived somewhat expensively, keeping fine horses, and much caressed by gay society, yet he was earnestly devoted to his studies, and irreproachable in his morals. It is strange, however, under such influences, that he was not ruined. In the second year of his college course, moved by some unexplained inward impulse, he discarded his horses, society, and even his favorite violin, to which he had previously given much time. He often devoted fifteen hours a day to hard study, allowing himself for exercise only a run in the evening twilight of a mile out of the city and back again. He thus attained very high intellectual culture, alike excellence in philosophy and the languages. The most difficult Latin and Greek authors he read with facility. A more finished scholar has seldom gone forth from college halls; and

there was not to be found, perhaps, in all Virginia, a more pureminded, upright, gentlemanly young man.

Immediately upon leaving college he began the study of law. For the short time he continued in the practice of his profession he rose rapidly and distinguished himself by his energy and accuteness as a lawyer. But the times called for greater action. The policy of England had awakened the spirit of resistance of the American Colonies, and the enlarged views which Jefferson had ever entertained, soon led him into active political life. In 1769 he was chosen a member of the Virginia House of Burgesses. In 1772 he married Mrs. Martha Skelton, a very beautiful, wealthy and highly accomplished young widow.

Upon Mr. Jefferson's large estate at Shadwell, there was a majestic swell of land, called Monticello, which commanded a prospect of wonderful extent and beauty. This spot Mr. Jefferson selected for his new home; and here he reared a mansion of modest yet elegant architecture, which, next to Mount Vernon, became the most distinguished resort in our land.

In 1775 he was sent to the Colonial Congress, where, though a silent member, his abilities as a writer and a reasoner soon become known, and he was placed upon a number of important committees, and was chairman of the one appointed for the drawing up of a declaration of independence. This committee consisted of Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman and Robert R. Livingston. Jefferson, as chairman, was appointed to draw up the paper. Franklin and Adams suggested a few verbal changes before it was submitted to Congress. On June 28, a few slight changes were made in it by Congress, and it was passed and signed July 4, 1776. What must have been the feelings of that

man—what the emotions that swelled his breast—who was charged with the preparation of that Declaration, which, while it made known the wrongs of America, was also to publish her to the world, free, sovereign and independent. It is one of the most remarkable papers ever written; and did no other effort of the mind of its author exist, that alone would be sufficient to stamp his name with immortality.

In 1779 Mr. Jefferson was elected successor to Patrick Henry, as Governor of Virginia. At one time the British officer, Tarleton, sent a secret expedition to Monticello, to capture the Governor. Scarcely five minutes elapsed after the hurried escape of Mr. Jefferson and his family, ere his mansion was in possession of the British troops. His wife's health, never very good, was much injured by this excitement, and in the summer of 1782 she died.

Mr. Jefferson was elected to Congress in 1783. Two years later he was appointed Minister Plenipotentiary to France. Returning to the United States in September, 1789, he became Secretary of State in Washington's cabinet. This position he resigned Jan. 1, 1794. In 1797, he was chosen Vice President, and four years later was elected President over Mr. Adams, with Aaron Burr as Vice President. In 1804 he was re-elected with wonderful unanimity, and George Clinton, Vice President.

The early part of Mr. Jefferson's second administration was disturbed by an event which threatened the tranquility and peace of the Union; this was the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. Defeated in the late election to the Vice Presidency, and led on by an unprincipled ambition, this extraordinary man formed the plan of a military expedition into the Spanish territories on our southwestern frontier, for the purpose of forming there a new republic. This has been generally supposed was a mere pretext; and although it has not been generally known what his real plans were, there is no doubt that they were of a far more dangerous character.

In 1809, at the expiration of the second term for which Mr. Jefferson had been elected, he determined to retire from political life. For a period of nearly forty years, he had been continually before the public, and all that time had been employed in offices of the greatest trust and responsibility. Having thus devoted the best part of his life to the service of his country, he now felt desirous of that rest which his declining years required, and upon the organization of the new administration, in March, 1809, he bid farewell forever to public life, and retired to Monticello.

Mr. Jefferson was profuse in his hospitality. Whole families came in their coaches with their horses,—fathers and mothers, boys and girls, babies and nurses,—and remained three and even six months. Life at Monticello, for years, resembled that at a fashionable watering-place.

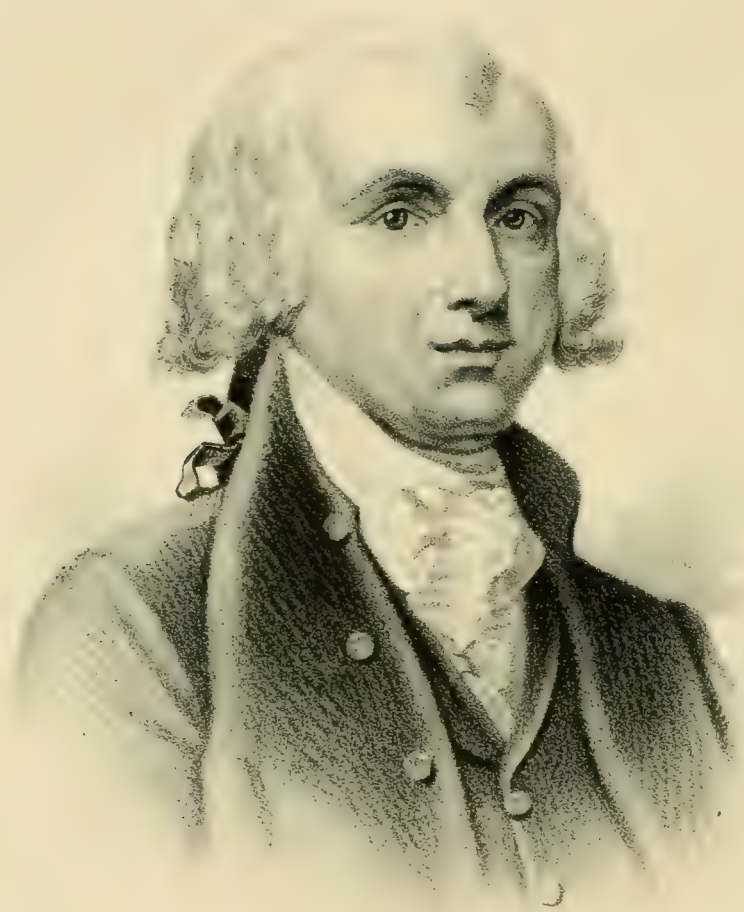
The fourth of July, 1826, being the fiftieth anniver-

sary of the Declaration of American Independence, great preparations were made in every part of the Union for its celebration, as the nation's jubilee, and the citizens of Washington, to add to the solemnity of the occasion, invited Mr. Jefferson, as the framer and one of the few surviving signers of the Declaration, to participate in their festivities. But an illness, which had been of several weeks duration, and had been continually increasing, compelled him to decline the invitation.

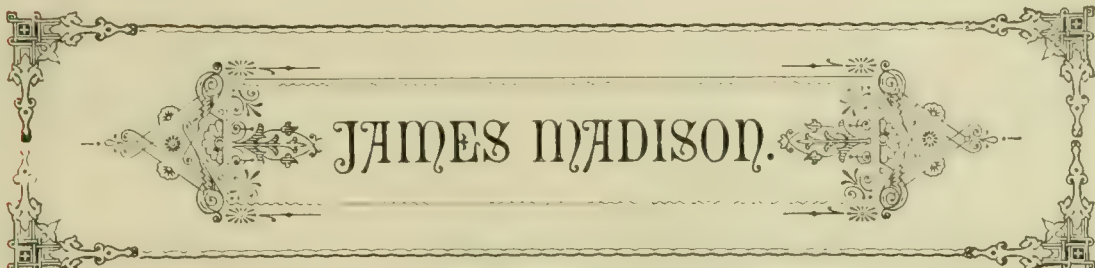
On the second of July, the disease under which he was laboring left him, but in such a reduced state that his medical attendants, entertained no hope of his recovery. From this time he was perfectly sensible that his last hour was at hand. On the next day, which was Monday, he asked of those around him, the day of the month, and on being told it was the third of July, he expressed the earnest wish that he might be permitted to breathe the air of the fiftieth anniversary. His prayer was heard—that day, whose dawn was hailed with such rapture through our land, burst upon his eyes, and then they were closed forever. And what a noble consummation of a noble life! To die on that day,—the birthday of a nation,—the day which his own name and his own act had rendered glorious; to die amidst the rejoicings and festivities of a whole nation, who looked up to him, as the author, under God, of their greatest blessings, was all that was wanting to fill up the record his life.

Almost at the same hour of his death, the kindred spirit of the venerable Adams, as if to bear him company, left the scene of his earthly honors. Hand in hand they had stood forth, the champions of freedom; hand in hand, during the dark and desperate struggle of the Revolution, they had cheered and animated their desponding countrymen; for half a century they had labored together for the good of the country; and now hand in hand they depart. In their lives they had been united in the same great cause of liberty, and in their deaths they were not divided.

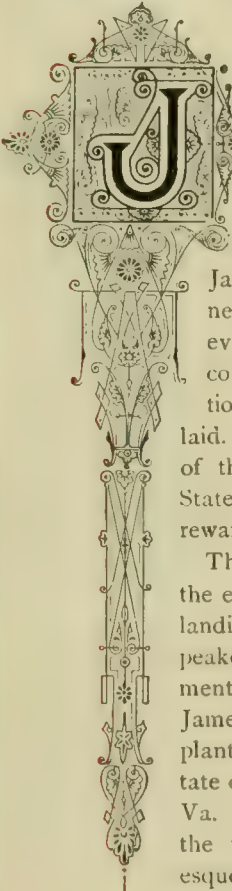
In person Mr. Jefferson was tall and thin, rather above six feet in height, but well formed; his eyes were light, his hair originally red, in after life became white and silvery; his complexion was fair, his forehead broad, and his whole countenance intelligent and thoughtful. He possessed great fortitude of mind as well as personal courage; and his command of temper was such that his oldest and most intimate friends never recollected to have seen him in a passion. His manners, though dignified, were simple and unaffected, and his hospitality was so unbounded that all found at his house a ready welcome. In conversation he was fluent, eloquent and enthusiastic; and his language was remarkably pure and correct. He was a finished classical scholar, and in his writings is discernable the care with which he formed his style upon the best models of antiquity.



James Madison



JAMES MADISON.



JAMES MADISON, "Father of the Constitution," and fourth President of the United States, was born March 16, 1757, and died at his home in Virginia, June 28, 1836. The name of James Madison is inseparably connected with most of the important events in that heroic period of our country during which the foundations of this great republic were laid. He was the last of the founders of the Constitution of the United States to be called to his eternal reward.

The Madison family were among the early emigrants to the New World, landing upon the shores of the Chesapeake but 15 years after the settlement of Jamestown. The father of James Madison was an opulent planter, residing upon a very fine estate called "Montpelier," Orange Co., Va. The mansion was situated in the midst of scenery highly picturesque and romantic, on the west side of South-west Mountain, at the foot of Blue Ridge. It was but 25 miles from the home of Jefferson at Monticello. The closest personal and political attachment existed between these illustrious men, from their early youth until death.

The early education of Mr. Madison was conducted mostly at home under a private tutor. At the age of 18 he was sent to Princeton College, in New Jersey. Here he applied himself to study with the most im-

prudent zeal; allowing himself, for months, but three hours' sleep out of the 24. His health thus became so seriously impaired that he never recovered any vigor of constitution. He graduated in 1771, with a feeble body, with a character of utmost purity, and with a mind highly disciplined and richly stored with learning which embellished and gave proficiency to his subsequent career.

Returning to Virginia, he commenced the study of law and a course of extensive and systematic reading. This educational course, the spirit of the times in which he lived, and the society with which he associated, all combined to inspire him with a strong love of liberty, and to train him for his life-work of a statesman. Being naturally of a religious turn of mind, and his frail health leading him to think that his life was not to be long, he directed especial attention to theological studies. Endowed with a mind singularly free from passion and prejudice, and with almost unequalled powers of reasoning, he weighed all the arguments for and against revealed religion, until his faith became so established as never to be shaken.

In the spring of 1776, when 26 years of age, he was elected a member of the Virginia Convention, to frame the constitution of the State. The next year (1777), he was a candidate for the General Assembly. He refused to treat the whisky-loving voters, and consequently lost his election; but those who had witnessed the talent, energy and public spirit of the modest young man, enlisted themselves in his behalf, and he was appointed to the Executive Council.

Both Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson were Governors of Virginia while Mr. Madison remained member of the Council; and their appreciation of his

intellectual, social and moral worth, contributed not a little to his subsequent eminence. In the year 1780, he was elected a member of the Continental Congress. Here he met the most illustrious men in our land, and he was immediately assigned to one of the most conspicuous positions among them.

For three years Mr. Madison continued in Congress, one of its most active and influential members. In the year 1784, his term having expired, he was elected a member of the Virginia Legislature.

No man felt more deeply than Mr. Madison the utter inefficiency of the old confederacy, with no national government, with no power to form treaties which would be binding, or to enforce law. There was not any State more prominent than Virginia in the declaration, that an efficient national government must be formed. In January, 1786, Mr. Madison carried a resolution through the General Assembly of Virginia, inviting the other States to appoint commissioners to meet in convention at Annapolis to discuss this subject. Five States only were represented. The convention, however, issued another call, drawn up by Mr. Madison, urging all the States to send their delegates to Philadelphia, in May, 1787, to draft a Constitution for the United States, to take the place of that Confederate League. The delegates met at the time appointed. Every State but Rhode Island was represented. George Washington was chosen president of the convention; and the present Constitution of the United States was then and there formed. There was, perhaps, no mind and no pen more active in framing this immortal document than the mind and the pen of James Madison.

The Constitution, adopted by a vote 81 to 79, was to be presented to the several States for acceptance. But grave solicitude was felt. Should it be rejected we should be left but a conglomeration of independent States, with but little power at home and little respect abroad. Mr. Madison was selected by the convention to draw up an address to the people of the United States, expounding the principles of the Constitution, and urging its adoption. There was great opposition to it at first, but it at length triumphed over all, and went into effect in 1789.

Mr. Madison was elected to the House of Representatives in the first Congress, and soon became the avowed leader of the Republican party. While in New York attending Congress, he met Mrs. Todd, a young widow of remarkable power of fascination, whom he married. She was in person and character queenly, and probably no lady has thus far occupied so prominent a position in the very peculiar society which has constituted our republican court as Mrs. Madison.

Mr. Madison served as Secretary of State under Jefferson, and at the close of his administration was chosen President. At this time the encroachments of England had brought us to the verge of war.

British orders in council destroyed our commerce, and our flag was exposed to constant insult. Mr. Madison was a man of peace. Scholarly in his taste, retiring in his disposition, war had no charms for him. But the meekest spirit can be roused. It makes one's blood boil, even now, to think of an American ship brought to, upon the ocean, by the guns of an English cruiser. A young lieutenant steps on board and orders the crew to be paraded before him. With great nonchalance he selects any number whom he may please to designate as British subjects; orders them down the ship's side into his boat; and places them on the gun-deck of his man-of-war, to fight, by compulsion, the battles of England. This right of search and impressment, no efforts of our Government could induce the British cabinet to relinquish.

On the 18th of June, 1812, President Madison gave his approval to an act of Congress declaring war against Great Britain. Notwithstanding the bitter hostility of the Federal party to the war, the country in general approved; and Mr. Madison, on the 4th of March, 1813, was re-elected by a large majority, and entered upon his second term of office. This is not the place to describe the various adventures of this war on the land and on the water. Our infant navy then laid the foundations of its renown in grappling with the most formidable power which ever swept the seas. The contest commenced in earnest by the appearance of a British fleet, early in February, 1813, in Chesapeake Bay, declaring nearly the whole coast of the United States under blockade.

The Emperor of Russia offered his services as mediator. America accepted; England refused. A British force of five thousand men landed on the banks of the Patuxet River, near its entrance into Chesapeake Bay, and marched rapidly, by way of Bladensburg, upon Washington.

The straggling little city of Washington was thrown into consternation. The cannon of the brief conflict at Bladensburg echoed through the streets of the metropolis. The whole population fled from the city. The President, leaving Mrs. Madison in the White House, with her carriage drawn up at the door to await his speedy return, hurried to meet the officers in a council of war. He met our troops utterly routed, and he could not go back without danger of being captured. But few hours elapsed ere the Presidential Mansion, the Capitol, and all the public buildings in Washington were in flames.

The war closed after two years of fighting, and on Feb. 13, 1815, the treaty of peace was signed at Ghent.

On the 4th of March, 1817, his second term of office expired, and he resigned the Presidential chair to his friend, James Monroe. He retired to his beautiful home at Montpelier, and there passed the remainder of his days. On June 28, 1836, then at the age of 85 years, he fell asleep in death. Mrs. Madison died July 12, 1849.



James Monroe



JAMES MONROE.



JAMES MONROE, the fifth President of The United States, was born in Westmoreland Co., Va., April 28, 1758. His early life was passed at the place of nativity. His ancestors had for many years resided in the province in which he was born. When, at 17 years of age, in the process of completing his education at William and Mary College, the Colonial Congress assembled at Philadelphia to deliberate upon the unjust and manifold oppressions of Great Britain, declared the separation of the Colonies, and promulgated the Declaration of Independence. Had he been born ten years before it is highly probable that he would have been one of the signers of that celebrated instrument. At this time he left school and enlisted among the patriots.

He joined the army when everything looked hopeless and gloomy. The number of deserters increased from day to day. The invading armies came pouring in; and the Tories not only favored the cause of the mother country, but disheartened the new recruits, who were sufficiently terrified at the prospect of contending with an enemy whom they had been taught to deem invincible. To such brave spirits as James Monroe, who went right onward, undismayed through difficulty and danger, the United States owe their political emancipation. The young cadet joined the ranks, and espoused the cause of his injured country, with a firm determination to live or die with her strife

for liberty. Firmly yet sadly he shared in the melancholy retreat from Harleam Heights and White Plains, and accompanied the dispirited army as it fled before its foes through New Jersey. In four months after the Declaration of Independence, the patriots had been beaten in seven battles. At the battle of Trenton he led the vanguard, and, in the act of charging upon the enemy he received a wound in the left shoulder.

As a reward for his bravery, Mr. Monroe was promoted a captain of infantry; and, having recovered from his wound, he rejoined the army. He, however, receded from the line of promotion, by becoming an officer in the staff of Lord Sterling. During the campaigns of 1777 and 1778, in the actions of Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, he continued aid-de-camp; but becoming desirous to regain his position in the army, he exerted himself to collect a regiment for the Virginia line. This scheme failed owing to the exhausted condition of the State. Upon this failure he entered the office of Mr. Jefferson, at that period Governor, and pursued, with considerable ardor, the study of common law. He did not, however, entirely lay aside the knapsack for the green bag; but on the invasions of the enemy, served as a volunteer, during the two years of his legal pursuits.

In 1782, he was elected from King George county, a member of the Legislature of Virginia, and by that body he was elevated to a seat in the Executive Council. He was thus honored with the confidence of his fellow citizens at 23 years of age; and having at this early period displayed some of that ability and aptitude for legislation, which were afterwards employed with unremitting energy for the public good,

he was in the succeeding year chosen a member of the Congress of the United States.

Deeply as Mr. Monroe felt the imperfections of the old Confederacy, he was opposed to the new Constitution, thinking, with many others of the Republican party, that it gave too much power to the Central Government, and not enough to the individual States. Still he retained the esteem of his friends who were its warm supporters, and who, notwithstanding his opposition secured its adoption. In 1789, he became a member of the United States Senate; which office he held for four years. Every month the line of distinction between the two great parties which divided the nation, the Federal and the Republican, was growing more distinct. The two prominent ideas which now separated them were, that the Republican party was in sympathy with France, and also in favor of such a strict construction of the Constitution as to give the Central Government as little power, and the State Governments as much power, as the Constitution would warrant. The Federalists sympathized with England, and were in favor of a liberal construction of the Constitution, which would give as much power to the Central Government as that document could possibly authorize.

The leading Federalists and Republicans were alike noble men, consecrating all their energies to the good of the nation. Two more honest men or more pure patriots than John Adams the Federalist, and James Monroe the Republican, never breathed. In building up this majestic nation, which is destined to eclipse all Grecian and Assyrian greatness, the combination of their antagonism was needed to create the right equilibrium. And yet each in his day was denounced as almost a demon.

Washington was then President. England had espoused the cause of the Bourbons against the principles of the French Revolution. All Europe was drawn into the conflict. We were feeble and far away. Washington issued a proclamation of neutrality between these contending powers. France had helped us in the struggle for our liberties. All the despotisms of Europe were now combined to prevent the French from escaping from a tyranny a thousand-fold worse than that which we had endured. Col. Monroe, more magnanimous than prudent, was anxious that, at whatever hazard, we should help our old allies in their extremity. It was the impulse of a generous and noble nature. He violently opposed the President's proclamation as ungrateful and wanting in magnanimity.

Washington, who could appreciate such a character, developed his calm, serene, almost divine greatness, by appointing that very James Monroe, who was denouncing the policy of the Government, as the minister of that Government to the Republic of France. Mr. Monroe was welcomed by the National Convention in France with the most enthusiastic demonstrations.

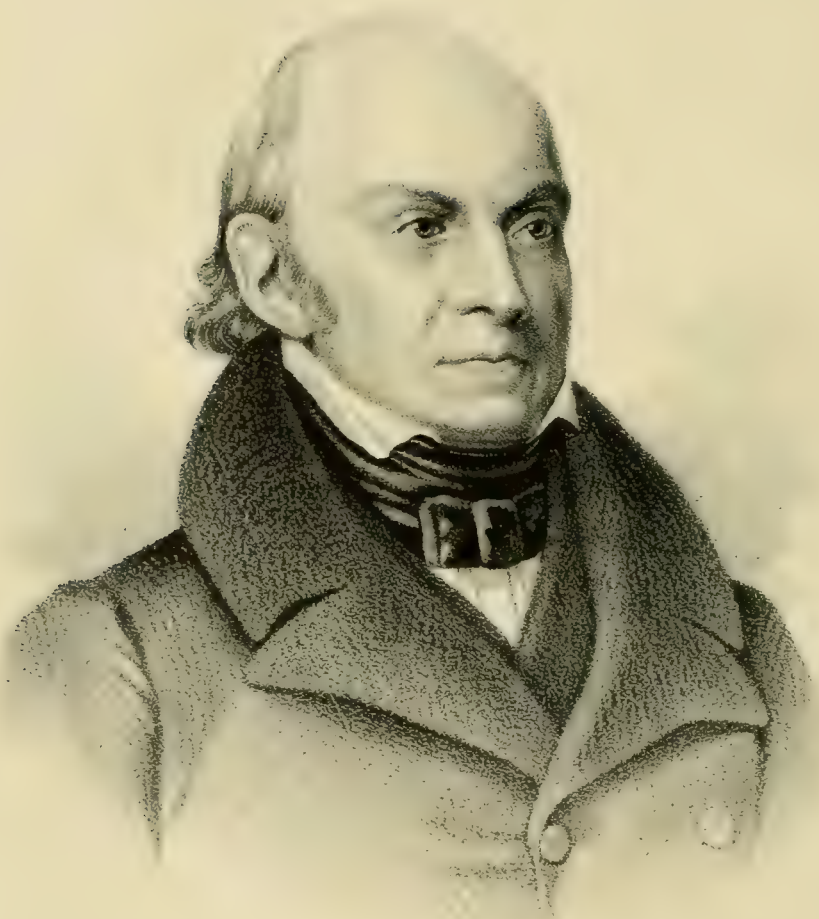
Shortly after his return to this country, Mr. Monroe was elected Governor of Virginia, and held the office for three years. He was again sent to France to co-operate with Chancellor Livingston in obtaining the vast territory then known as the Province of Louisiana, which France had but shortly before obtained from Spain. Their united efforts were successful. For the comparatively small sum of fifteen millions of dollars, the entire territory of Orleans and district of Louisiana were added to the United States. This was probably the largest transfer of real estate which was ever made in all the history of the world.

From France Mr. Monroe went to England to obtain from that country some recognition of our rights as neutrals, and to remonstrate against those odious impressments of our seamen. But England was unrelenting. He again returned to England on the same mission, but could receive no redress. He returned to his home and was again chosen Governor of Virginia. This he soon resigned to accept the position of Secretary of State under Madison. While in this office war with England was declared, the Secretary of War resigned, and during these trying times, the duties of the War Department were also put upon him. He was truly the armor-bearer of President Madison, and the most efficient business man in his cabinet. Upon the return of peace he resigned the Department of War, but continued in the office of Secretary of State until the expiration of Mr. Madison's administration. At the election held the previous autumn Mr. Monroe himself had been chosen President with but little opposition, and upon March 4, 1817, was inaugurated. Four years later he was elected for a second term.

Among the important measures of his Presidency were the cession of Florida to the United States; the Missouri Compromise, and the "Monroe doctrine."

This famous doctrine, since known as the "Monroe doctrine," was enunciated by him in 1823. At that time the United States had recognized the independence of the South American states, and did not wish to have European powers longer attempting to subdue portions of the American Continent. The doctrine is as follows: "That we should consider any attempt on the part of European powers to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere as dangerous to our peace and safety," and "that we could not view any interposition for the purpose of oppressing or controlling American governments or provinces in any other light than as a manifestation by European powers of an unfriendly disposition toward the United States." This doctrine immediately affected the course of foreign governments, and has become the approved sentiment of the United States.

At the end of his second term Mr. Monroe retired to his home in Virginia, where he lived until 1830, when he went to New York to live with his son-in-law. In that city he died, on the 4th of July, 1831.



J. Q. Adams



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.



JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, the sixth President of the United States, was born in the rural home of his honored father, John Adams, in Quincy, Mass., on the 11th of July, 1767. His mother, a woman of exalted worth, watched over his childhood during the almost constant absence of his father. When but eight years of age, he stood with his mother on an eminence, listening to the booming of the great battle on Bunker's Hill, and gazing on upon the smoke and flames billowing up from the conflagration of Charlestown.

When but eleven years old he took a tearful adieu of his mother, to sail with his father for Europe, through a fleet of hostile British cruisers. The bright, animated boy spent a year and a half in Paris, where his father was associated with Franklin and Lee as minister plenipotentiary. His intelligence attracted the notice of these distinguished men, and he received from them flattering marks of attention.

Mr. John Adams had scarcely returned to this country, in 1779, ere he was again sent abroad. Again John Quincy accompanied his father. At Paris he applied himself with great diligence, for six months, to study; then accompanied his father to Holland, where he entered, first a school in Amsterdam, then the University at Leyden. About a year from this time, in 1781, when the manly boy was but fourteen years of age, he was selected by Mr. Dana, our minister to the Russian court, as his private secretary.

In this school of incessant labor and of ennobling culture he spent fourteen months, and then returned to Holland through Sweden, Denmark, Hamburg and Bremen. This long journey he took alone, in the winter, when in his sixteenth year. Again he resumed his studies, under a private tutor, at Hague. Thence,

in the spring of 1782, he accompanied his father to Paris, traveling leisurely, and forming acquaintance with the most distinguished men on the Continent; examining architectural remains, galleries of paintings, and all renowned works of art. At Paris he again became associated with the most illustrious men of all lands in the contemplations of the loftiest temporal themes which can engross the human mind. After a short visit to England he returned to Paris, and consecrated all his energies to study until May, 1785, when he returned to America. To a brilliant young man of eighteen, who had seen much of the world, and who was familiar with the etiquette of courts, a residence with his father in London, under such circumstances, must have been extremely attractive; but with judgment very rare in one of his age, he preferred to return to America to complete his education in an American college. He wished then to study law, that with an honorable profession, he might be able to obtain an independent support.

Upon leaving Harvard College, at the age of twenty, he studied law for three years. In June, 1794, being then but twenty-seven years of age, he was appointed by Washington, resident minister at the Netherlands. Sailing from Boston in July, he reached London in October, where he was immediately admitted to the deliberations of Messrs. Jay and Pinckney, assisting them in negotiating a commercial treaty with Great Britain. After thus spending a fortnight in London, he proceeded to the Hague.

In July, 1797, he left the Hague to go to Portugal as minister plenipotentiary. On his way to Portugal, upon arriving in London, he met with despatches directing him to the court of Berlin, but requesting him to remain in London until he should receive his instructions. While waiting he was married to an American lady to whom he had been previously engaged,—Miss Louisa Catherine Johnson, daughter of Mr. Joshua Johnson, American consul in London; a lady endowed with that beauty and those accomplishments which eminently fitted her to move in the elevated sphere for which she was destined.

He reached Berlin with his wife in November, 1797; where he remained until July, 1799, when, having fulfilled all the purposes of his mission, he solicited his recall.

Soon after his return, in 1802, he was chosen to the Senate of Massachusetts, from Boston, and then was elected Senator of the United States for six years, from the 4th of March, 1804. His reputation, his ability and his experience, placed him immediately among the most prominent and influential members of that body. Especially did he sustain the Government in its measures of resistance to the encroachments of England, destroying our commerce and insulting our flag. There was no man in America more familiar with the arrogance of the British court upon these points, and no one more resolved to present a firm resistance.

In 1809, Madison succeeded Jefferson in the Presidential chair, and he immediately nominated John Quincy Adams minister to St. Petersburg. Resigning his professorship in Harvard College, he embarked at Boston, in August, 1809.

While in Russia, Mr. Adams was an intense student. He devoted his attention to the language and history of Russia; to the Chinese trade; to the European system of weights, measures, and coins; to the climate and astronomical observations; while he kept up a familiar acquaintance with the Greek and Latin classics. In all the universities of Europe, a more accomplished scholar could scarcely be found. All through life the Bible constituted an important part of his studies. It was his rule to read five chapters every day.

On the 4th of March, 1817, Mr. Monroe took the Presidential chair, and immediately appointed Mr. Adams Secretary of State. Taking leave of his numerous friends in public and private life in Europe, he sailed in June, 1819, for the United States. On the 18th of August, he again crossed the threshold of his home in Quincy. During the eight years of Mr. Monroe's administration, Mr. Adams continued Secretary of State.

Some time before the close of Mr. Monroe's second term of office, new candidates began to be presented for the Presidency. The friends of Mr. Adams brought forward his name. It was an exciting campaign. Party spirit was never more bitter. Two hundred and sixty electoral votes were cast. Andrew Jackson received ninety nine; John Quincy Adams, eighty-four; William H. Crawford, forty-one; Henry Clay, thirty-seven. As there was no choice by the people, the question went to the House of Representatives. Mr. Clay gave the vote of Kentucky to Mr. Adams, and he was elected.

The friends of all the disappointed candidates now combined in a venomous and persistent assault upon Mr. Adams. There is nothing more disgraceful in the past history of our country than the abuse which

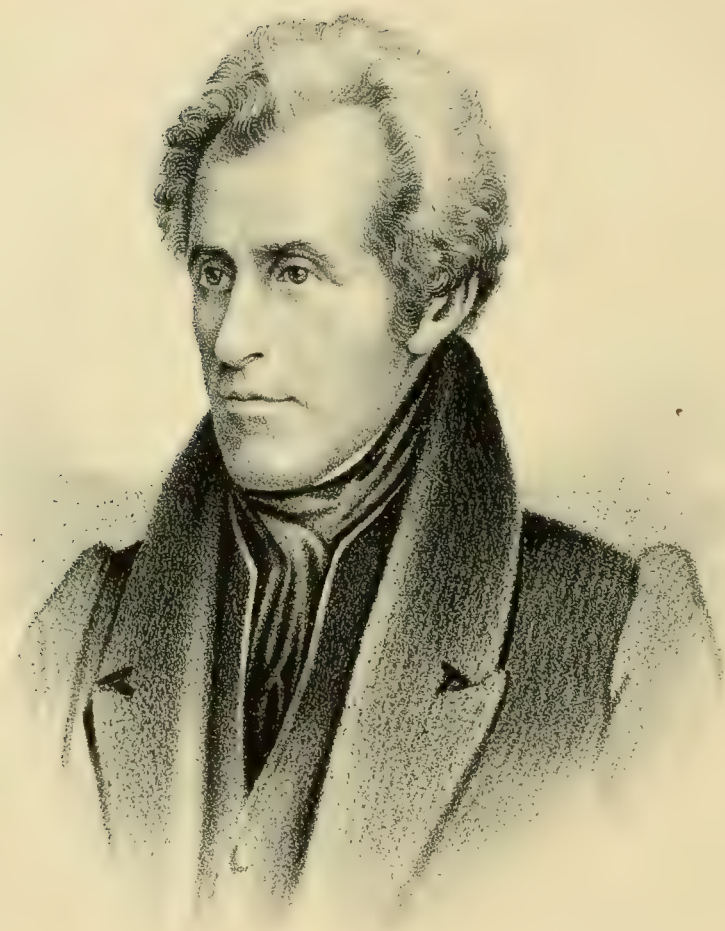
was poured in one uninterrupted stream, upon this high-minded, upright, patriotic man. There never was an administration more pure in principles, more conscientiously devoted to the best interests of the country, than that of John Quincy Adams; and never, perhaps, was there an administration more unscrupulously and outrageously assailed.

Mr. Adams was, to a very remarkable degree, abstemious and temperate in his habits; always rising early, and taking much exercise. When at his home in Quincy, he has been known to walk, before breakfast, seven miles to Boston. In Washington, it was said that he was the first man up in the city, lighting his own fire and applying himself to work in his library often long before dawn.

On the 4th of March, 1829, Mr. Adams retired from the Presidency, and was succeeded by Andrew Jackson. John C. Calhoun was elected Vice President. The slavery question now began to assume portentous magnitude. Mr. Adams returned to Quincy and to his studies, which he pursued with unabated zeal. But he was not long permitted to remain in retirement. In November, 1830, he was elected representative to Congress. For seventeen years, until his death, he occupied the post as representative, towering above all his peers, ever ready to do brave battle for freedom, and winning the title of "the old man eloquent." Upon taking his seat in the House, he announced that he should hold himself bound to no party. Probably there never was a member more devoted to his duties. He was usually the first in his place in the morning, and the last to leave his seat in the evening. Not a measure could be brought forward and escape his scrutiny. The battle which Mr. Adams fought, almost singly, against the proslavery party in the Government, was sublime in its moral daring and heroism. For persisting in presenting petitions for the abolition of slavery, he was threatened with indictment by the grand jury, with expulsion from the House, with assassination; but no threats could intimidate him, and his final triumph was complete.

It has been said of President Adams, that when his body was bent and his hair silvered by the lapse of fourscore years, yielding to the simple faith of a little child, he was accustomed to repeat every night, before he slept, the prayer which his mother taught him in his infant years.

On the 21st of February, 1848, he rose on the floor of Congress, with a paper in his hand, to address the speaker. Suddenly he fell, again stricken by paralysis, and was caught in the arms of those around him. For a time he was senseless, as he was conveyed to the sofa in the rotunda. With reviving consciousness, he opened his eyes, looked calmly around and said "*This is the end of earth;*" then after a moment's pause he added, "*I am content.*" These were the last words of the grand "Old Man Eloquent."



Andrew Jackson

ANDREW JACKSON.



ANDREW JACKSON, the seventh President of the United States, was born in Waxhaw settlement, N. C., March 15, 1767, a few days after his father's death. His parents were poor emigrants from Ireland, and took up their abode in Waxhaw settlement, where they lived in deepest poverty.

Andrew, or Andy, as he was universally called, grew up a very rough, rude, turbulent boy. His features were coarse, his form ungainly; and there was but very

little in his character, made visible, which was attractive.

When only thirteen years old he joined the volunteers of Carolina against the British invasion. In 1781, he and his brother Robert were captured and imprisoned for a time at Camden. A British officer ordered him to brush his mud-spattered boots. "I am a prisoner of war, not your servant," was the reply of the dauntless boy.

The brute drew his sword, and aimed a desperate blow at the head of the helpless young prisoner. Andrew raised his hand, and thus received two fearful gashes,—one on the hand and the other upon the head. The officer then turned to his brother Robert with the same demand. He also refused, and received a blow from the keen-edged sabre, which quite disabled him, and which probably soon after caused his death. They suffered much other ill-treatment, and were finally stricken with the small-pox. Their mother was successful in obtaining their exchange,

and took her sick boys home. After a long illness Andrew recovered, and the death of his mother soon left him entirely friendless.

Andrew supported himself in various ways, such as working at the saddler's trade, teaching school and clerking in a general store, until 1784, when he entered a law office at Salisbury, N. C. He, however, gave more attention to the wild amusements of the times than to his studies. In 1788, he was appointed solicitor for the western district of North Carolina, of which Tennessee was then a part. This involved many long and tedious journeys amid dangers of every kind, but Andrew Jackson never knew fear, and the Indians had no desire to repeat a skirmish with the Sharp Knife.

In 1791, Mr. Jackson was married to a woman who supposed herself divorced from her former husband. Great was the surprise of both parties, two years later, to find that the conditions of the divorce had just been definitely settled by the first husband. The marriage ceremony was performed a second time, but the occurrence was often used by his enemies to bring Mr. Jackson into disfavor.

During these years he worked hard at his profession, and frequently had one or more duels on hand, one of which, when he killed Dickenson, was especially disgraceful.

In January, 1796, the Territory of Tennessee then containing nearly eighty thousand inhabitants, the people met in convention at Knoxville to frame a constitution. Five were sent from each of the eleven counties. Andrew Jackson was one of the delegates. The new State was entitled to but one member in the National House of Representatives. Andrew Jackson was chosen that member. Mounting his horse he rode to Philadelphia, where Congress then held its

sessions,—a distance of about eight hundred miles.

Jackson was an earnest advocate of the Democratic party. Jefferson was his idol. He admired Bonaparte, loved France and hated England. As Mr. Jackson took his seat, Gen. Washington, whose second term of office was then expiring, delivered his last speech to Congress. A committee drew up a complimentary address in reply. Andrew Jackson did not approve of the address, and was one of the twelve who voted against it. He was not willing to say that Gen. Washington's administration had been "wise, firm and patriotic."

Mr. Jackson was elected to the United States Senate in 1797, but soon resigned and returned home. Soon after he was chosen Judge of the Supreme Court of his State, which position he held for six years.

When the war of 1812 with Great Britain commenced, Madison occupied the Presidential chair. Aaron Burr sent word to the President that there was an unknown man in the West, Andrew Jackson, who would do credit to a commission if one were conferred upon him. Just at that time Gen. Jackson offered his services and those of twenty-five hundred volunteers. His offer was accepted, and the troops were assembled at Nashville.

As the British were hourly expected to make an attack upon New Orleans, where Gen. Wilkinson was in command, he was ordered to descend the river with fifteen hundred troops to aid Wilkinson. The expedition reached Natchez; and after a delay of several weeks there, without accomplishing anything, the men were ordered back to their homes. But the energy Gen. Jackson had displayed, and his entire devotion to the comfort of his soldiers, won him golden opinions; and he became the most popular man in the State. It was in this expedition that his toughness gave him the nickname of "Old Hickory."

Soon after this, while attempting to horsewhip Col. Thomas H. Benton, for a remark that gentleman made about his taking a part as second in a duel, in which a younger brother of Benton's was engaged, he received two severe pistol wounds. While he was lingering upon a bed of suffering news came that the Indians, who had combined under Tecumseh from Florida to the Lakes, to exterminate the white settlers, were committing the most awful ravages. Decisive action became necessary. Gen. Jackson, with his fractured bone just beginning to heal, his arm in a sling, and unable to mount his horse without assistance, gave his amazing energies to the raising of an army to rendezvous at Fayetteville, Alabama.

The Creek Indians had established a strong fort on one of the bends of the Tallapoosa River, near the center of Alabama, about fifty miles below Fort Strother. With an army of two thousand men, Gen. Jackson traversed the pathless wilderness in a march of eleven days. He reached their fort, called Tohopeka or Horse-shoe, on the 27th of March, 1814. The bend

of the river enclosed nearly one hundred acres of tangled forest and wild ravine. Across the narrow neck the Indians had constructed a formidable breast-work of logs and brush. Here nine hundred warriors, with an ample supply of arms were assembled.

The fort was stormed. The fight was utterly desperate. Not an Indian would accept of quarter. When bleeding and dying, they would fight those who endeavored to spare their lives. From ten in the morning until dark, the battle raged. The carnage was awful and revolting. Some threw themselves into the river; but the unerring bullet struck their heads as they swam. Nearly everyone of the nine hundred warriors were killed. A few probably, in the night, swam the river and escaped. This ended the war. The power of the Creeks was broken forever. This bold plunge into the wilderness, with its terrific slaughter, so appalled the savages, that the haggard remnants of the bands came to the camp, begging for peace.

This closing of the Creek war enabled us to concentrate all our militia upon the British, who were the allies of the Indians. No man of less resolute will than Gen. Jackson could have conducted this Indian campaign to so successful an issue. Immediately he was appointed major-general.

Late in August, with an army of two thousand men, on a rushing march, Gen. Jackson came to Mobile. A British fleet came from Pensacola, landed a force upon the beach, anchored near the little fort, and from both ship and shore commenced a furious assault. The battle was long and doubtful. At length one of the ships was blown up and the rest retired.

Garrisoning Mobile, where he had taken his little army, he moved his troops to New Orleans. And the battle of New Orleans which soon ensued, was in reality a very arduous campaign. This won for Gen. Jackson an imperishable name. Here his troops, which numbered about four thousand men, won a signal victory over the British army of about nine thousand. His loss was but thirteen, while the loss of the British was two thousand six hundred.

The name of Gen. Jackson soon began to be mentioned in connection with the Presidency, but, in 1824, he was defeated by Mr. Adams. He was, however, successful in the election of 1828, and was re-elected for a second term in 1832. In 1829, just before he assumed the reins of the government, he met with the most terrible affliction of his life in the death of his wife, whom he had loved with a devotion which has perhaps never been surpassed. From the shock of her death he never recovered.

His administration was one of the most memorable in the annals of our country; applauded by one party, condemned by the other. No man had more bitter enemies or warmer friends. At the expiration of his two terms of office he retired to the Hermitage, where he died June 8, 1845. The last years of Mr. Jackson's life were that of a devoted Christian man.



Mr. Van Buren

MARTIN VAN BUREN.



MARTIN VAN BUREN, the eighth President of the United States, was born at Kinderhook, N. Y., Dec. 5, 1782. He died at the same place, July 24, 1862. His body rests in the cemetery at Kinderhook. Above it is a plain granite shaft fifteen feet high, bearing a simple inscription about half way up on one face. The lot is unfenced, unbordered

or unbounded by shrub or flower.

There is but little in the life of Martin Van Buren of romantic interest. He fought no battles, engaged in no wild adventures. Though his life was stormy in political and intellectual conflicts, and he gained many signal victories, his days passed uneventful in those incidents which give zest to biography. His ancestors, as his name indicates, were of Dutch origin, and were among the earliest emigrants from Holland to the banks of the Hudson. His father was a farmer, residing in the old town of Kinderhook. His mother, also of Dutch lineage, was a woman of superior intelligence and exemplary piety.

He was decidedly a precocious boy, developing unusual activity, vigor and strength of mind. At the age of fourteen, he had finished his academic studies in his native village, and commenced the study of law. As he had not a collegiate education, seven years of study in a law-office were required of him before he could be admitted to the bar. Inspired with a lofty ambition, and conscious of his powers, he pursued his studies with indefatigable industry. After spending six years in an office in his native village,

he went to the city of New York, and prosecuted his studies for the seventh year.

In 1803, Mr. Van Buren, then twenty-one years of age, commenced the practice of law in his native village. The great conflict between the Federal and Republican party was then at its height. Mr. Van Buren was from the beginning a politician. He had, perhaps, imbibed that spirit while listening to the many discussions which had been carried on in his father's hotel. He was in cordial sympathy with Jefferson, and earnestly and eloquently espoused the cause of State Rights; though at that time the Federal party held the supremacy both in his town and State.

His success and increasing reputation led him after six years of practice, to remove to Hudson, the county seat of his county. Here he spent seven years constantly gaining strength by contending in the courts with some of the ablest men who have adorned the bar of his State.

Just before leaving Kinderhook for Hudson, Mr. Van Buren married a lady alike distinguished for beauty and accomplishments. After twelve short years she sank into the grave, the victim of consumption, leaving her husband and four sons to weep over her loss. For twenty-five years, Mr. Van Buren was an earnest, successful, assiduous lawyer. The record of those years is barren in items of public interest. In 1812, when thirty years of age, he was chosen to the State Senate, and gave his strenuous support to Mr. Madison's administration. In 1815, he was appointed Attorney-General, and the next year moved to Albany, the capital of the State.

While he was acknowledged as one of the most prominent leaders of the Democratic party, he had

the moral courage to avow that true democracy did not require that "universal suffrage" which admits the vile, the degraded, the ignorant, to the right of governing the State. In true consistency with his democratic principles, he contended that, while the path leading to the privilege of voting should be open to every man without distinction, no one should be invested with that sacred prerogative, unless he were in some degree qualified for it by intelligence, virtue and some property interests in the welfare of the State.

In 1821 he was elected a member of the United States Senate; and in the same year, he took a seat in the convention to revise the constitution of his native State. His course in this convention secured the approval of men of all parties. No one could doubt the singleness of his endeavors to promote the interests of all classes in the community. In the Senate of the United States, he rose at once to a conspicuous position as an active and useful legislator.

In 1827, John Quincy Adams being then in the Presidential chair, Mr. Van Buren was re-elected to the Senate. He had been from the beginning a determined opposer of the Administration, adopting the "State Rights" view in opposition to what was deemed the Federal proclivities of Mr. Adams.

Soon after this, in 1828, he was chosen Governor of the State of New York, and accordingly resigned his seat in the Senate. Probably no one in the United States contributed so much towards ejecting John Q. Adams from the Presidential chair, and placing in it Andrew Jackson, as did Martin Van Buren. Whether entitled to the reputation or not, he certainly was regarded throughout the United States as one of the most skillful, sagacious and cunning of politicians. It was supposed that no one knew so well as he how to touch the secret springs of action; how to pull all the wires to put his machinery in motion; and how to organize a political army which would, secretly and stealthily accomplish the most gigantic results. By these powers it is said that he outwitted Mr. Adams, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and secured results which few thought then could be accomplished.

When Andrew Jackson was elected President he appointed Mr. Van Buren Secretary of State. This position he resigned in 1831, and was immediately appointed Minister to England, where he went the same autumn. The Senate, however, when it met, refused to ratify the nomination, and he returned

home, apparently untroubled; was nominated Vice President in the place of Calhoun, at the re-election of President Jackson; and with smiles for all and frowns for none, he took his place at the head of that Senate which had refused to confirm his nomination as ambassador.

His rejection by the Senate roused all the zeal of President Jackson in behalf of his repudiated favorite; and this, probably more than any other cause, secured his elevation to the chair of the Chief Executive. On the 20th of May, 1836, Mr. Van Buren received the Democratic nomination to succeed Gen. Jackson as President of the United States. He was elected by a handsome majority, to the delight of the retiring President. "Leaving New York out of the canvass," says Mr. Parton, "the election of Mr. Van Buren to the Presidency was as much the act of Gen. Jackson as though the Constitution had conferred upon him the power to appoint a successor."

His administration was filled with exciting events. The insurrection in Canada, which threatened to involve this country in war with England, the agitation of the slavery question, and finally the great commercial panic which spread over the country, all were trials to his wisdom. The financial distress was attributed to the management of the Democratic party, and brought the President into such disfavor that he failed of re-election.

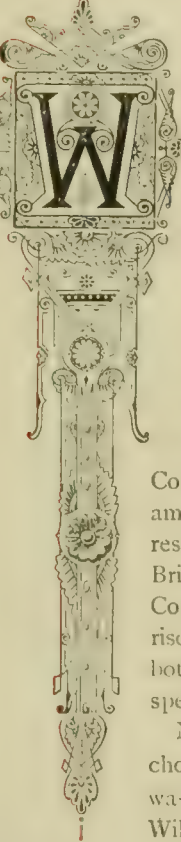
With the exception of being nominated for the Presidency by the "Free Soil" Democrats, in 1848, Mr. Van Buren lived quietly upon his estate until his death.

He had ever been a prudent man, of frugal habits, and living within his income, had now fortunately a competence for his declining years. His unblemished character, his commanding abilities, his unquestioned patriotism, and the distinguished positions which he had occupied in the government of our country, secured to him not only the homage of his party, but the respect of the whole community. It was on the 4th of March, 1841, that Mr. Van Buren retired from the presidency. From his fine estate at Lindenwald, he still exerted a powerful influence upon the politics of the country. From this time until his death, on the 24th of July, 1862, at the age of eighty years, he resided at Lindenwald, a gentleman of leisure, of culture and of wealth; enjoying in a healthy old age, probably far more happiness than he had before experienced amid the stormy scenes of his active life.



W. H. Harrison

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON.



WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON, the ninth President of the United States, was born at Berkeley, Va., Feb. 9, 1773. His father, Benjamin Harrison, was in comparatively opulent circumstances, and was one of the most distinguished men of his day. He was an intimate friend of George Washington, was early elected a member of the Continental Congress, and was conspicuous among the patriots of Virginia in resisting the encroachments of the British crown. In the celebrated Congress of 1775, Benjamin Harrison and John Hancock were both candidates for the office of speaker.

Mr Harrison was subsequently chosen Governor of Virginia, and was twice re-elected. His son, William Henry, of course enjoyed

in childhood all the advantages which wealth and intellectual and cultivated society could give. Having received a thorough common-school education, he entered Hampden-Sidney College, where he graduated with honor soon after the death of his father. He then repaired to Philadelphia to study medicine under the instructions of Dr. Rush and the guardianship of Robert Morris, both of whom were, with his father, signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Upon the outbreak of the Indian troubles, and notwithstanding the remonstrances of his friends, he abandoned his medical studies and entered the army, having obtained a commission of Ensign from Presi-

dent Washington. He was then but 19 years old. From that time he passed gradually upward in rank until he became aid to General Wayne, after whose death he resigned his commission. He was then appointed Secretary of the North-western Territory. This Territory was then entitled to but one member in Congress and Capt. Harrison was chosen to fill that position.

In the spring of 1800 the North-western Territory was divided by Congress into two portions. The eastern portion, comprising the region now embraced in the State of Ohio, was called "The Territory north-west of the Ohio." The western portion, which included what is now called Indiana, Illinois and Wisconsin, was called the "Indiana Territory." William Henry Harrison, then 27 years of age, was appointed by John Adams, Governor of the Indiana Territory, and immediately after, also Governor of Upper Louisiana. He was thus ruler over almost as extensive a realm as any sovereign upon the globe. He was Superintendent of Indian Affairs, and was invested with powers nearly dictatorial over the now rapidly increasing white population. The ability and fidelity with which he discharged these responsible duties may be inferred from the fact that he was four times appointed to this office—first by John Adams, twice by Thomas Jefferson and afterwards by President Madison.

When he began his administration there were but three white settlements in that almost boundless region, now crowded with cities and resounding with all the tumult of wealth and traffic. One of these settlements was on the Ohio, nearly opposite Louisville; one at Vincennes, on the Wabash, and the third a French settlement.

The vast wilderness over which Gov. Harrison reigned was filled with many tribes of Indians. About

the year 1806, two extraordinary men, twin brothers, of the Shawnese tribe, rose among them. One of these was called Tecumseh, or "The Crouching Panther;" the other, Olliwacheca, or "The Prophet." Tecumseh was not only an Indian warrior, but a man of great sagacity, far-reaching foresight and indomitable perseverance in any enterprise in which he might engage. He was inspired with the highest enthusiasm, and had long regarded with dread and with hatred the encroachment of the whites upon the hunting-grounds of his fathers. His brother, the Prophet, was an orator, who could sway the feelings of the untutored Indian as the gale tossed the tree-tops beneath which they dwelt.

But the Prophet was not merely an orator: he was, in the superstitious minds of the Indians, invested with the superhuman dignity of a medicine-man or a magician. With an enthusiasm unsurpassed by Peter the Hermit rousing Europe to the crusades, he went from tribe to tribe, assuming that he was specially sent by the Great Spirit.

Gov. Harrison made many attempts to conciliate the Indians, but at last the war came, and at Tippecanoe the Indians were routed with great slaughter. October 28, 1812, his army began its march. When near the Prophet's town three Indians of rank made their appearance and inquired why Gov. Harrison was approaching them in so hostile an attitude. After a short conference, arrangements were made for a meeting the next day, to agree upon terms of peace.

But Gov. Harrison was too well acquainted with the Indian character to be deceived by such protestations. Selecting a favorable spot for his night's encampment, he took every precaution against surprise. His troops were posted in a hollow square, and slept upon their arms.

The troops threw themselves upon the ground for rest; but every man had his accoutrements on, his loaded musket by his side, and his bayonet fixed. The wakeful Governor, between three and four o'clock in the morning, had risen, and was sitting in conversation with his aids by the embers of a waning fire. It was a chill, cloudy morning with a drizzling rain. In the darkness, the Indians had crept as near as possible, and just then, with a savage yell, rushed, with all the desperation which superstition and passion most highly inflamed could give, upon the left flank of the little army. The savages had been amply provided with guns and ammunition by the English. Their war-whoop was accompanied by a shower of bullets.

The camp-fires were instantly extinguished, as the light aided the Indians in their aim. With hideous yells, the Indian bands rushed on, not doubting a speedy and an entire victory. But Gen. Harrison's troops stood as immovable as the rocks around them until day dawned: they then made a simultaneous charge with the bayonet, and swept every thing before them, and completely routing the foe.

Gov. Harrison now had all his energies tasked to the utmost. The British descending from the Canadas, were of themselves a very formidable force; but with their savage allies, rushing like wolves from the forest, searching out every remote farm-house, burning, plundering, scalping, torturing, the wide frontier was plunged into a state of consternation which even the most vivid imagination can but faintly conceive. The war-whoop was resounding everywhere in the forest. The horizon was illuminated with the conflagration of the cabins of the settlers. Gen. Hull had made the ignominious surrender of his forces at Detroit. Under these despairing circumstances, Gov. Harrison was appointed by President Madison commander-in-chief of the North-western army, with orders to retake Detroit, and to protect the frontiers.

It would be difficult to place a man in a situation demanding more energy, sagacity and courage; but General Harrison was found equal to the position, and nobly and triumphantly did he meet all the responsibilities.

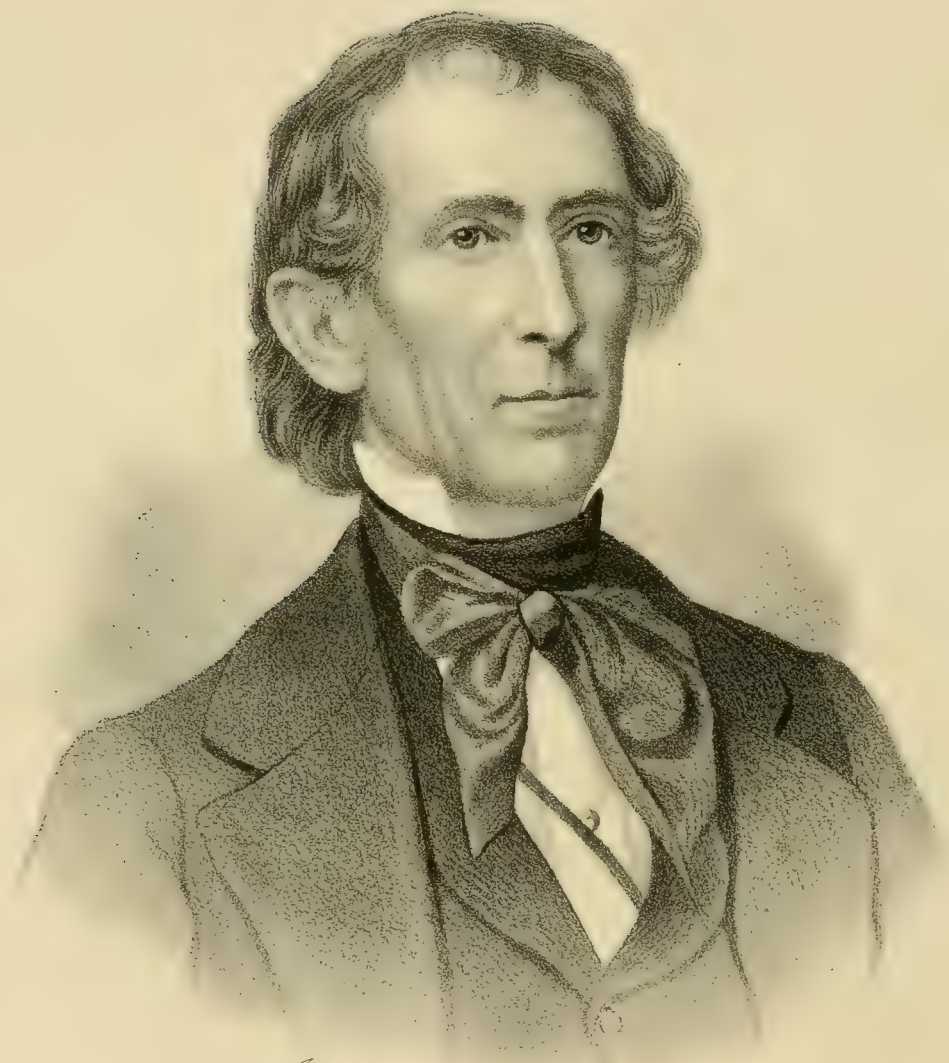
He won the love of his soldiers by always sharing with them their fatigue. His whole baggage, while pursuing the foe up the Thames, was carried in a valise; and his bedding consisted of a single blanket lashed over his saddle. Thirty-five British officers, his prisoners of war, supped with him after the battle. The only fare he could give them was beef roasted before the fire, without bread or salt.

In 1816, Gen. Harrison was chosen a member of the National House of Representatives, to represent the District of Ohio. In Congress he proved an active member; and whenever he spoke, it was with force of reason and power of eloquence, which arrested the attention of all the members.

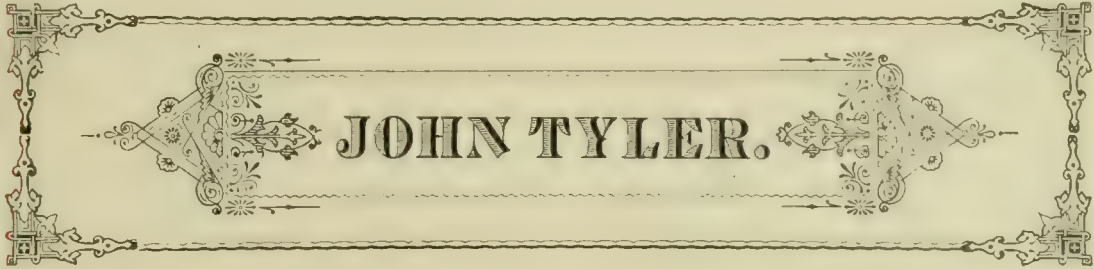
In 1819, Harrison was elected to the Senate of Ohio; and in 1824, as one of the presidential electors of that State, he gave his vote for Henry Clay. The same year he was chosen to the United States Senate.

In 1836, the friends of Gen. Harrison brought him forward as a candidate for the Presidency against Van Buren, but he was defeated. At the close of Mr. Van Buren's term, he was re-nominated by his party, and Mr. Harrison was unanimously nominated by the Whigs, with John Tyler for the Vice Presidency. The contest was very animated. Gen. Jackson gave all his influence to prevent Harrison's election; but his triumph was signal.

The cabinet which he formed, with Daniel Webster at its head as Secretary of State, was one of the most brilliant with which any President had ever been surrounded. Never were the prospects of an administration more flattering, or the hopes of the country more sanguine. In the midst of these bright and joyous prospects, Gen. Harrison was seized by a pleurisy-fever and after a few days of violent sickness, died on the 4th of April; just one month after his inauguration as President of the United States.



John Tyler



JOHN TYLER.



JOHN TYLER, the tenth President of the United States. He was born in Charles-city Co., Va., March 29, 1790. He was the favored child of affluence and high social position. At the early age of twelve, John entered William and Mary College and graduated with much honor when but seventeen years old. After graduating, he devoted himself with great assiduity to the study of law, partly with his father and partly with Edmund Randolph, one of the most distinguished lawyers of Virginia.

At nineteen years of age, he commenced the practice of law. His success was rapid and astonishing. It is said that three months had not elapsed ere there was scarcely a case on the docket of the court in which he was

not retained. When but twenty-one years of age, he was almost unanimously elected to a seat in the State Legislature. He connected himself with the Democratic party, and warmly advocated the measures of Jefferson and Madison. For five successive years he was elected to the Legislature, receiving nearly the unanimous vote of his county.

When but twenty-six years of age, he was elected a member of Congress. Here he acted earnestly and ably with the Democratic party, opposing a national bank, internal improvements by the General Govern-

ment, a protective tariff, and advocating a strict construction of the Constitution, and the most careful vigilance over State rights. His labors in Congress were so arduous that before the close of his second term he found it necessary to resign and retire to his estate in Charles-city Co., to recruit his health. He, however, soon after consented to take his seat in the State Legislature, where his influence was powerful in promoting public works of great utility. With a reputation thus constantly increasing, he was chosen by a very large majority of votes, Governor of his native State. His administration was signally a successful one. His popularity secured his re-election.

John Randolph, a brilliant, erratic, half-crazed man, then represented Virginia in the Senate of the United States. A portion of the Democratic party was displeased with Mr. Randolph's wayward course, and brought forward John Tyler as his opponent, considering him the only man in Virginia of sufficient popularity to succeed against the renowned orator of Roanoke. Mr. Tyler was the victor.

In accordance with his professions, upon taking his seat in the Senate, he joined the ranks of the opposition. He opposed the tariff; he spoke against and voted against the bank as unconstitutional; he strenuously opposed all restrictions upon slavery, resisting all projects of internal improvements by the General Government, and avowed his sympathy with Mr. Calhoun's view of nullification; he declared that Gen. Jackson, by his opposition to the nullifiers, had abandoned the principles of the Democratic party. Such was Mr. Tyler's record in Congress,—a record in perfect accordance with the principles which he had always avowed.

Returning to Virginia, he resumed the practice of his profession. There was a split in the Democratic

party. His friends still regarded him as a true Jeffersonian, gave him a dinner, and showered compliments upon him. He had now attained the age of forty-six. His career had been very brilliant. In consequence of his devotion to public business, his private affairs had fallen into some disorder; and it was not without satisfaction that he resumed the practice of law, and devoted himself to the culture of his plantation. Soon after this he removed to Williamsburg, for the better education of his children; and he again took his seat in the Legislature of Virginia.

By the Southern Whigs, he was sent to the national convention at Harrisburg to nominate a President in 1839. The majority of votes were given to Gen. Harrison, a genuine Whig, much to the disappointment of the South, who wished for Henry Clay. To conciliate the Southern Whigs and to secure their vote, the convention then nominated John Tyler for Vice President. It was well known that he was not in sympathy with the Whig party in the North: but the Vice President has but very little power in the Government, his main and almost only duty being to preside over the meetings of the Senate. Thus it happened that a Whig President, and, in reality, a Democratic Vice President were chosen.

In 1841, Mr. Tyler was inaugurated Vice President of the United States. In one short month from that time, President Harrison died, and Mr. Tyler thus found himself, to his own surprise and that of the whole Nation, an occupant of the Presidential chair. This was a new test of the stability of our institutions, as it was the first time in the history of our country that such an event had occurred. Mr. Tyler was at home in Williamsburg when he received the unexpected tidings of the death of President Harrison. He hastened to Washington, and on the 6th of April was inaugurated to the high and responsible office. He was placed in a position of exceeding delicacy and difficulty. All his long life he had been opposed to the main principles of the party which had brought him into power. He had ever been a consistent, honest man, with an unblemished record. Gen. Harrison had selected a Whig cabinet. Should he retain them, and thus surround himself with counsellors whose views were antagonistic to his own? or, on the other hand, should he turn against the party which had elected him and select a cabinet in harmony with himself, and which would oppose all those views which the Whigs deemed essential to the public welfare? This was his fearful dilemma. He invited the cabinet which President Harrison had selected to retain their seats. He recommended a day of fasting and prayer, that God would guide and bless us.

The Whigs carried through Congress a bill for the incorporation of a fiscal bank of the United States. The President, after ten days' delay, returned it with his veto. He suggested, however, that he would

approve of a bill drawn up upon such a plan as he proposed. Such a bill was accordingly prepared, and privately submitted to him. He gave it his approval. It was passed without alteration, and he sent it back with his veto. Here commenced the open rupture. It is said that Mr. Tyler was provoked to this measure by a published letter from the Hon. John M. Botts, a distinguished Virginia Whig, who severely touched the pride of the President.

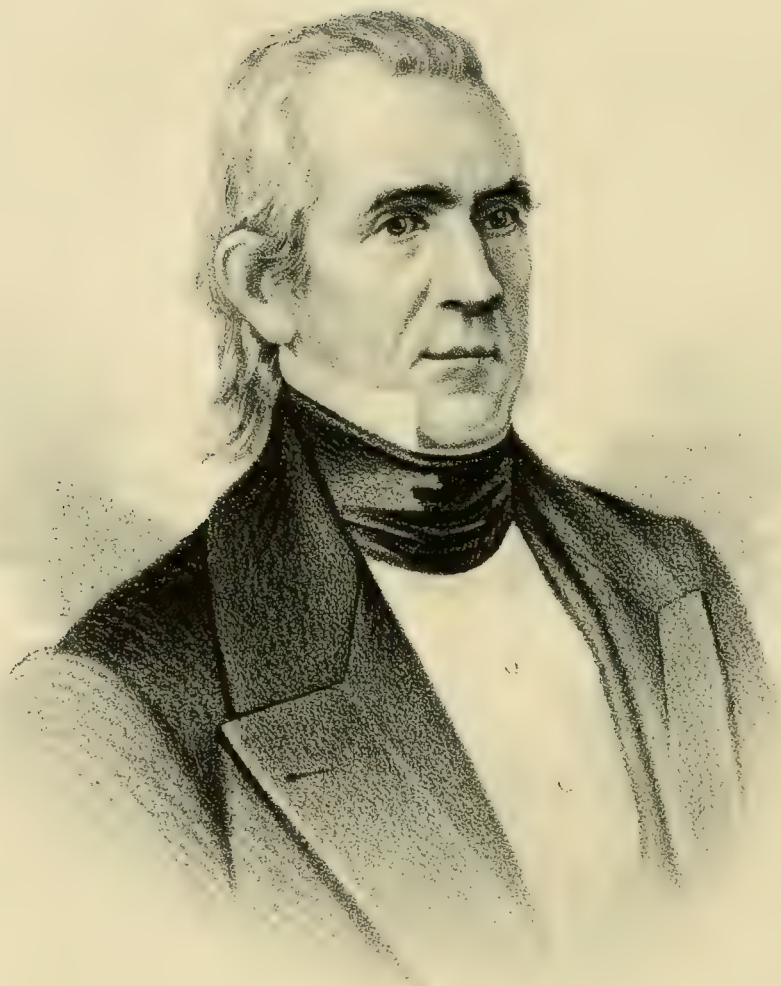
The opposition now exultingly received the President into their arms. The party which elected him denounced him bitterly. All the members of his cabinet, excepting Mr. Webster, resigned. The Whigs of Congress, both the Senate and the House, held a meeting and issued an address to the people of the United States, proclaiming that all political alliance between the Whigs and President Tyler were at an end.

Still the President attempted to conciliate. He appointed a new cabinet of distinguished Whigs and Conservatives, carefully leaving out all strong party men. Mr. Webster soon found it necessary to resign, forced out by the pressure of his Whig friends. Thus the four years of Mr. Tyler's unfortunate administration passed sadly away. No one was satisfied. The land was filled with murmurs and vituperation. Whigs and Democrats alike assailed him. More and more, however, he brought himself into sympathy with his old friends, the Democrats, until at the close of his term, he gave his whole influence to the support of Mr. Polk, the Democratic candidate for his successor.

On the 4th of March, 1845, he retired from the harassments of office, to the regret of neither party, and probably to his own unspeakable relief. His first wife, Miss Letitia Christian, died in Washington, in 1842; and in June, 1844, President Tyler was again married, at New York, to Miss Julia Gardiner, a young lady of many personal and intellectual accomplishments.

The remainder of his days Mr. Tyler passed mainly in retirement at his beautiful home,—Sherwood Forest, Charles-city Co., Va. A polished gentleman in his manners, richly furnished with information from books and experience in the world, and possessing brilliant powers of conversation, his family circle was the scene of unusual attractions. With sufficient means for the exercise of a generous hospitality, he might have enjoyed a serene old age with the few friends who gathered around him, were it not for the storms of civil war which his own principles and policy had helped to introduce.

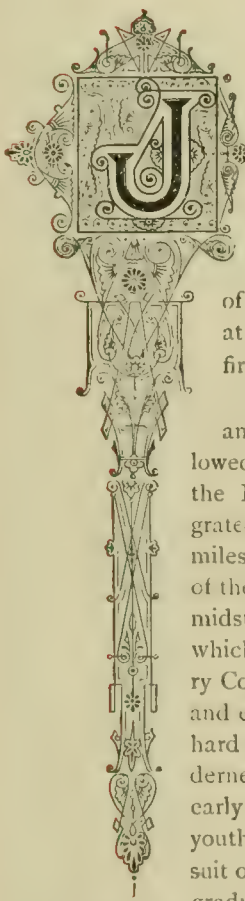
When the great Rebellion rose, which the State-rights and nullifying doctrines of Mr. John C. Calhoun had inaugurated, President Tyler renounced his allegiance to the United States, and joined the Confederates. He was chosen a member of their Congress; and while engaged in active measures to destroy, by force of arms, the Government over which he had once presided, he was taken sick and soon died,



James A. Folk



JAMES K. POLK.



JAMES K. POLK, the eleventh President of the United States, was born in Mecklenburg Co., N. C., Nov. 2, 1795. His parents were Samuel and Jane (Knox) Polk, the former a son of Col. Thomas Polk, who located at the above place, as one of the first pioneers, in 1735.

In the year 1806, with his wife and children, and soon after followed by most of the members of the Polk family, Samuel Polk emigrated some two or three hundred miles farther west, to the rich valley of the Duck River. Here in the midst of the wilderness, in a region which was subsequently called Maury Co., they reared their log huts, and established their homes. In the hard toil of a new farm in the wilderness, James K. Polk spent the early years of his childhood and youth. His father, adding the pursuit of a surveyor to that of a farmer, gradually increased in wealth until

he became one of the leading men of the region. His mother was a superior woman, of strong common sense and earnest piety.

Very early in life, James developed a taste for reading and expressed the strongest desire to obtain a liberal education. His mother's training had made him methodical in his habits, had taught him punctuality and industry, and had inspired him with lofty principles of morality. His health was frail; and his father, fearing that he might not be able to endure a

sedentary life, got a situation for him behind the counter, hoping to fit him for commercial pursuits.

This was to James a bitter disappointment. He had no taste for these duties, and his daily tasks were irksome in the extreme. He remained in this uncongenial occupation but a few weeks, when at his earnest solicitation his father removed him, and made arrangements for him to prosecute his studies. Soon after he sent him to Murfreesboro Academy. With ardor which could scarcely be surpassed, he pressed forward in his studies, and in less than two and a half years, in the autumn of 1815, entered the sophomore class in the University of North Carolina, at Chapel Hill. Here he was one of the most exemplary of scholars, punctual in every exercise, never allowing himself to be absent from a recitation or a religious service.

He graduated in 1818, with the highest honors, being deemed the best scholar of his class, both in mathematics and the classics. He was then twenty-three years of age. Mr. Polk's health was at this time much impaired by the assiduity with which he had prosecuted his studies. After a short season of relaxation he went to Nashville, and entered the office of Felix Grundy, to study law. Here Mr. Polk renewed his acquaintance with Andrew Jackson, who resided on his plantation, the Hermitage, but a few miles from Nashville. They had probably been slightly acquainted before.

Mr. Polk's father was a Jeffersonian Republican, and James K. Polk ever adhered to the same political faith. He was a popular public speaker, and was constantly called upon to address the meetings of his party friends. His skill as a speaker was such that he was popularly called the Napoleon of the stump. He was a man of unblemished morals, genial and

courteous in his bearing, and with that sympathetic nature in the joys and griefs of others which ever gave him troops of friends. In 1823, Mr. Polk was elected to the Legislature of Tennessee. Here he gave his strong influence towards the election of his friend, Mr. Jackson, to the Presidency of the United States.

In January, 1824, Mr. Polk married Miss Sarah Childress, of Rutherford Co., Tenn. His bride was altogether worthy of him,—a lady of beauty and culture. In the fall of 1825, Mr. Polk was chosen a member of Congress. The satisfaction which he gave to his constituents may be inferred from the fact, that for fourteen successive years, until 1839, he was continued in that office. He then voluntarily withdrew, only that he might accept the Gubernatorial chair of Tennessee. In Congress he was a laborious member, a frequent and a popular speaker. He was always in his seat, always courteous; and whenever he spoke it was always to the point, and without any ambitious rhetorical display.

During five sessions of Congress, Mr. Polk was Speaker of the House. Strong passions were roused, and stormy scenes were witnessed; but Mr. Polk performed his arduous duties to a very general satisfaction, and a unanimous vote of thanks to him was passed by the House as he withdrew on the 4th of March, 1839.

In accordance with Southern usage, Mr. Polk, as a candidate for Governor, canvassed the State. He was elected by a large majority, and on the 14th of October, 1839, took the oath of office at Nashville. In 1841, his term of office expired, and he was again the candidate of the Democratic party, but was defeated.

On the 4th of March, 1845, Mr. Polk was inaugurated President of the United States. The verdict of the country in favor of the annexation of Texas, exerted its influence upon Congress; and the last act of the administration of President Tyler was to affix his signature to a joint resolution of Congress, passed on the 3d of March, approving of the annexation of Texas to the American Union. As Mexico still claimed Texas as one of her provinces, the Mexican minister, Almonte, immediately demanded his passports and left the country, declaring the act of the annexation to be an act hostile to Mexico.

In his first message, President Polk urged that Texas should immediately, by act of Congress, be received into the Union on the same footing with the other States. In the meantime, Gen. Taylor was sent

with an army into Texas to hold the country. He was sent first to Nueces, which the Mexicans said was the western boundary of Texas. Then he was sent nearly two hundred miles further west, to the Rio Grande, where he erected batteries which commanded the Mexican city of Matamoras, which was situated on the western banks.

The anticipated collision soon took place, and war was declared against Mexico by President Polk. The war was pushed forward by Mr. Polk's administration with great vigor. Gen. Taylor, whose army was first called one of "observation," then of "occupation," then of "invasion," was sent forward to Monterey. The feeble Mexicans, in every encounter, were hopelessly and awfully slaughtered. The day of judgement alone can reveal the misery which this war caused. It was by the ingenuity of Mr. Polk's administration that the war was brought on.

'To the victors belong the spoils.' Mexico was prostrate before us. Her capital was in our hands. We now consented to peace upon the condition that Mexico should surrender to us, in addition to Texas, all of New Mexico, and all of Upper and Lower California. This new demand embraced, exclusive of Texas, eight hundred thousand square miles. This was an extent of territory equal to nine States of the size of New York. Thus slavery was securing eighteen majestic States to be added to the Union. There were some Americans who thought it all right: there were others who thought it all wrong. In the prosecution of this war, we expended twenty thousand lives and more than a hundred million of dollars. Of this money fifteen millions were paid to Mexico.

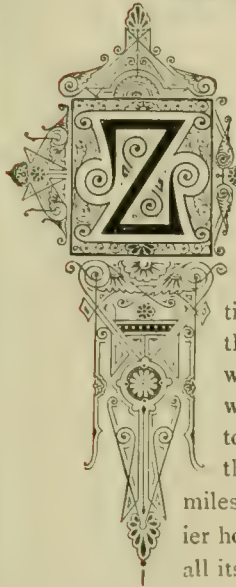
On the 3d of March, 1849, Mr. Polk retired from office, having served one term. The next day was Sunday. On the 5th, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated as his successor. Mr. Polk rode to the Capitol in the same carriage with Gen. Taylor; and the same evening, with Mrs. Polk, he commenced his return to Tennessee. He was then but fifty-four years of age. He had ever been strictly temperate in all his habits, and his health was good. With an ample fortune, a choice library, a cultivated mind, and domestic ties of the dearest nature, it seemed as though long years of tranquility and happiness were before him. But the cholera—that fearful scourge—was then sweeping up the Valley of the Mississippi. This he contracted, and died on the 15th of June, 1849, in the fifty-fourth year of his age, greatly mourned by his countrymen.



Zachary Taylor.



ZACHARY TAYLOR.



ZACHARY TAYLOR, twelfth President of the United States, was born on the 24th of Nov., 1784, in Orange Co., Va. His father, Colonel Taylor, was a Virginian of note, and a distinguished patriot and soldier of the Revolution. When Zachary was an infant, his father with his wife and two children, emigrated to Kentucky, where he settled in the pathless wilderness, a few miles from Louisville. In this frontier home, away from civilization and all its refinements, young Zachary

could enjoy but few social and educational advantages. When six years of age he attended a common school, and was then regarded as a bright, active boy, rather remarkable for bluntness and decision of character. He was strong, fearless and self-reliant, and manifested a strong desire to enter the army to fight the Indians who were ravaging the frontiers. There is little to be recorded of the uneventful years of his childhood on his father's large but lonely plantation.

In 1808, his father succeeded in obtaining for him the commission of lieutenant in the United States army; and he joined the troops which were stationed at New Orleans under Gen. Wilkinson. Soon after this he married Miss Margaret Smith, a young lady from one of the first families of Maryland.

Immediately after the declaration of war with England, in 1812, Capt. Taylor (for he had then been promoted to that rank) was put in command of Fort Harrison, on the Wabash, about fifty miles above Vincennes. This fort had been built in the wilderness by Gen. Harrison, on his march to Tippecanoe. It was one of the first points of attack by the Indians, led by Tecumseh. Its garrison consisted of a broken

company of infantry numbering fifty men, many of whom were sick.

Early in the autumn of 1812, the Indians, stealthily, and in large numbers, moved upon the fort. Their approach was first indicated by the murder of two soldiers just outside of the stockade. Capt. Taylor made every possible preparation to meet the anticipated assault. On the 4th of September, a band of forty painted and plumed savages came to the fort, waving a white flag, and informed Capt. Taylor that in the morning their chief would come to have a talk with him. It was evident that their object was merely to ascertain the state of things at the fort, and Capt. Taylor, well versed in the wiles of the savages, kept them at a distance.

The sun went down; the savages disappeared, the garrison slept upon their arms. One hour before midnight the war-whoop burst from a thousand lips in the forest around, followed by the discharge of musketry, and the rush of the foe. Every man, sick and well, sprang to his post. Every man knew that defeat was not merely death, but in the case of capture, death by the most agonizing and prolonged torture. No pen can describe, no imagination can conceive the scenes which ensued. The savages succeeded in setting fire to one of the block-houses. Until six o'clock in the morning, this awful conflict continued. The savages then, baffled at every point, and gnashing their teeth with rage, retired. Capt. Taylor, for this gallant defence, was promoted to the rank of major by brevet.

Until the close of the war, Major Taylor was placed in such situations that he saw but little more of active service. He was sent far away into the depths of the wilderness, to Fort Crawford, on Fox River, which empties into Green Bay. Here there was but little to be done but to wear away the tedious hours as one best could. There were no books, no society, no in-

tellectual stimulus. Thus with him the uneventful years rolled on. Gradually he rose to the rank of colonel. In the Black-Hawk war, which resulted in the capture of that renowned chieftain, Col. Taylor took a subordinate but a brave and efficient part.

For twenty-four years Col. Taylor was engaged in the defence of the frontiers, in scenes so remote, and in employments so obscure, that his name was unknown beyond the limits of his own immediate acquaintance. In the year 1836, he was sent to Florida to compel the Seminole Indians to vacate that region and retire beyond the Mississippi, as their chiefs by treaty, had promised they should do. The services rendered here secured for Col. Taylor the high appreciation of the Government; and as a reward, he was elevated to the rank of brigadier-general by brevet; and soon after, in May, 1838, was appointed to the chief command of the United States troops in Florida.

After two years of such wearisome employment amidst the everglades of the peninsula, Gen. Taylor obtained, at his own request, a change of command, and was stationed over the Department of the Southwest. This field embraced Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia. Establishing his headquarters at Fort Jessup, in Louisiana, he removed his family to a plantation which he purchased, near Baton Rouge. Here he remained for five years, buried, as it were, from the world, but faithfully discharging every duty imposed upon him.

In 1846, Gen. Taylor was sent to guard the land between the Nueces and Rio Grande, the latter river being the boundary of Texas, which was then claimed by the United States. Soon the war with Mexico was brought on, and at Palo Alto and Resaca de la Palma, Gen. Taylor won brilliant victories over the Mexicans. The rank of major-general by brevet was then conferred upon Gen. Taylor, and his name was received with enthusiasm almost everywhere in the Nation. Then came the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista in which he won signal victories over forces much larger than he commanded.

His careless habits of dress and his unaffected simplicity, secured for Gen. Taylor among his troops, the *sobriquet* of "Old Rough and Ready."

The tidings of the brilliant victory of Buena Vista spread the wildest enthusiasm over the country. The name of Gen. Taylor was on every one's lips. The Whig party decided to take advantage of this wonderful popularity in bringing forward the unpolished, unlettered, honest soldier as their candidate for the Presidency. Gen. Taylor was astonished at the announcement, and for a time would not listen to it; declaring that he was not at all qualified for such an office. So little interest had he taken in politics that, for forty years, he had not cast a vote. It was not without chagrin that several distinguished statesmen who had been long years in the public service found their claims set aside in behalf of one whose name

had never been heard of, save in connection with Palo Alto, Resaca de la Palma, Monterey and Buena Vista. It is said that Daniel Webster, in his haste remarked, "It is a nomination not fit to be made."

Gen. Taylor was not an eloquent speaker nor a fine writer. His friends took possession of him, and prepared such few communications as it was needful should be presented to the public. The popularity of the successful warrior swept the land. He was triumphantly elected over two opposing candidates,—Gen. Cass and Ex-President Martin Van Buren. Though he selected an excellent cabinet, the good old man found himself in a very uncongenial position, and was, at times, sorely perplexed and harassed. His mental sufferings were very severe, and probably tended to hasten his death. The pro-slavery party was pushing its claims with tireless energy, expeditions were fitting out to capture Cuba; California was pleading for admission to the Union, while slavery stood at the door to bar her out. Gen. Taylor found the political conflicts in Washington to be far more trying to the nerves than battles with Mexicans or Indians.

In the midst of all these troubles, Gen. Taylor, after he had occupied the Presidential chair but little over a year, took cold, and after a brief sickness of but little over five days, died on the 9th of July, 1850. His last words were, "I am not afraid to die. I am ready. I have endeavored to do my duty." He died universally respected and beloved. An honest, unpretending man, he had been steadily growing in the affections of the people; and the Nation bitterly lamented his death.

Gen. Scott, who was thoroughly acquainted with Gen. Taylor, gave the following graphic and truthful description of his character:—"With a good store of common sense, Gen. Taylor's mind had not been enlarged and refreshed by reading, or much converse with the world. Rigidity of ideas was the consequence. The frontiers and small military posts had been his home. Hence he was quite ignorant for his rank, and quite bigoted in his ignorance. His simplicity was child-like, and with innumerable prejudices, amusing and incorrigible, well suited to the tender age. Thus, if a man, however respectable, chanced to wear a coat of an unusual color, or his hat a little on one side of his head; or an officer to leave a corner of his handkerchief dangling from an outside pocket,—in any such case, this critic held the offender to be a coxcomb (perhaps something worse), whom he would not, to use his oft repeated phrase, 'touch with a pair of tongs.'

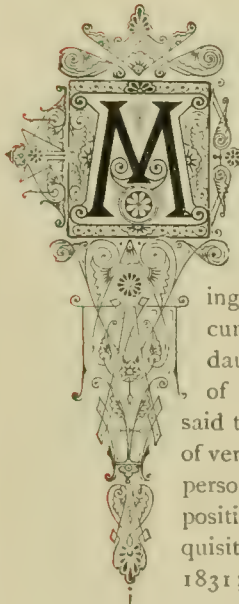
"Any allusion to literature beyond good old Dilworth's spelling-book, on the part of one wearing a sword, was evidence, with the same judge, of utter unfitness for heavy marchings and combats. In short, few men have ever had a more comfortable, labor-saving contempt for learning of every kind."



Millard Fillmore



MILLARD FILLMORE.



MILLARD FILLMORE, thirteenth President of the United States, was born at Summer Hill, Cayuga Co., N. Y., on the 7th of January, 1800. His father was a farmer, and owing to misfortune, in humble circumstances. Of his mother, the daughter of Dr. Abiathar Millard, of Pittsfield, Mass., it has been said that she possessed an intellect of very high order, united with much personal loveliness, sweetness of disposition, graceful manners and exquisite sensibilities. She died in 1831; having lived to see her son a young man of distinguished promise,

though she was not permitted to witness the high dignity which he finally attained.

In consequence of the secluded home and limited means of his father, Millard enjoyed but slender advantages for education in his early years. The common schools, which he occasionally attended were very imperfect institutions; and books were scarce and expensive. There was nothing then in his character to indicate the brilliant career upon which he was about to enter. He was a plain farmer's boy; intelligent, good-looking, kind-hearted. The sacred influences of home had taught him to revere the Bible, and had laid the foundations of an upright character. When fourteen years of age, his father sent him some hundred miles from home, to the then wilds of Livingston County, to learn the trade of a clothier. Near the mill there was a small village, where some

enterprising man had commenced the collection of a village library. This proved an inestimable blessing to young Fillmore. His evenings were spent in reading. Soon every leisure moment was occupied with books. His thirst for knowledge became insatiate; and the selections which he made were continually more elevating and instructive. He read history, biography, oratory, and thus gradually there was kindled in his heart a desire to be something more than a mere worker with his hands; and he was becoming, almost unknown to himself, a well-informed, educated man.

The young clothier had now attained the age of nineteen years, and was of fine personal appearance and of gentlemanly demeanor. It so happened that there was a gentleman in the neighborhood of ample pecuniary means and of benevolence,—Judge Walter Wood,—who was struck with the prepossessing appearance of young Fillmore. He made his acquaintance, and was so much impressed with his ability and attainments that he advised him to abandon his trade and devote himself to the study of the law. The young man replied, that he had no means of his own, no friends to help him and that his previous education had been very imperfect. But Judge Wood had so much confidence in him that he kindly offered to take him into his own office, and to loan him such money as he needed. Most gratefully the generous offer was accepted.

There is in many minds a strange delusion about a collegiate education. A young man is supposed to be liberally educated if he has graduated at some college. But many a boy loiters through university halls and then enters a law office, who is by no means as

well prepared to prosecute his legal studies as was Millard Fillmore when he graduated at the clothing-mill at the end of four years of manual labor, during which every leisure moment had been devoted to intense mental culture.

In 1823, when twenty-three years of age, he was admitted to the Court of Common Pleas. He then went to the village of Aurora, and commenced the practice of law. In this secluded, peaceful region, his practice of course was limited, and there was no opportunity for a sudden rise in fortune or in fame. Here, in the year 1826, he married a lady of great moral worth, and one capable of adorning any station she might be called to fill,—Miss Abigail Powers.

His elevation of character, his untiring industry, his legal acquirements, and his skill as an advocate, gradually attracted attention; and he was invited to enter into partnership under highly advantageous circumstances, with an elder member of the bar in Buffalo. Just before removing to Buffalo, in 1829, he took his seat in the House of Assembly, of the State of New York, as a representative from Erie County. Though he had never taken a very active part in politics, his vote and his sympathies were with the Whig party. The State was then Democratic, and he found himself in a helpless minority in the Legislature, still the testimony comes from all parties, that his courtesy, ability and integrity, won, to a very unusual degree the respect of his associates.

In the autumn of 1832, he was elected to a seat in the United States Congress. He entered that troubled arena in some of the most tumultuous hours of our national history. The great conflict respecting the national bank and the removal of the deposits, was then raging.

His term of two years closed; and he returned to his profession, which he pursued with increasing reputation and success. After a lapse of two years he again became a candidate for Congress; was re-elected, and took his seat in 1837. His past experience as a representative gave him strength and confidence. The first term of service in Congress to any man can be but little more than an introduction. He was now prepared for active duty. All his energies were brought to bear upon the public good. Every measure received his impress.

Mr. Fillmore was now a man of wide repute, and his popularity filled the State, and in the year 1847, he was elected Comptroller of the State.

Mr. Fillmore had attained the age of forty-seven years. His labors at the bar, in the Legislature, in Congress and as Comptroller, had given him very considerable fame. The Whigs were casting about to find suitable candidates for President and Vice-President at the approaching election. Far away, on the waters of the Rio Grande, there was a rough old soldier, who had fought one or two successful battles with the Mexicans, which had caused his name to be proclaimed in trumpet-tones all over the land. But it was necessary to associate with him on the same ticket some man of reputation as a statesman.

Under the influence of these considerations, the names of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore became the rallying-cry of the Whigs, as their candidates for President and Vice-President. The Whig ticket was signally triumphant. On the 4th of March, 1849, Gen. Taylor was inaugurated President, and Millard Fillmore Vice-President, of the United States.

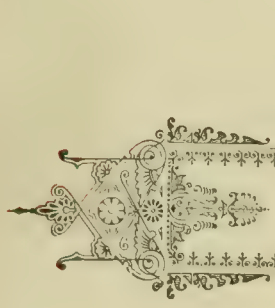
On the 9th of July, 1850, President Taylor, but about one year and four months after his inauguration, was suddenly taken sick and died. By the Constitution, Vice-President Fillmore thus became President. He appointed a very able cabinet, of which the illustrious Daniel Webster was Secretary of State.

Mr. Fillmore had very serious difficulties to contend with, since the opposition had a majority in both Houses. He did everything in his power to conciliate the South; but the pro-slavery party in the South felt the inadequacy of all measures of transient conciliation. The population of the free States was so rapidly increasing over that of the slave States that it was inevitable that the power of the Government should soon pass into the hands of the free States. The famous compromise measures were adopted under Mr. Fillmore's administration, and the Japan Expedition was sent out. On the 4th of March, 1853, Mr. Fillmore, having served one term, retired.

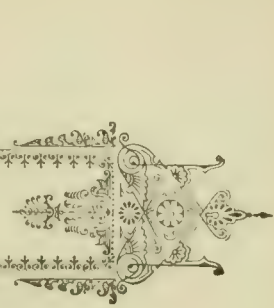
In 1856, Mr. Fillmore was nominated for the Presidency by the "Know Nothing" party, but was beaten by Mr. Buchanan. After that Mr. Fillmore lived in retirement. During the terrible conflict of civil war, he was mostly silent. It was generally supposed that his sympathies were rather with those who were endeavoring to overthrow our institutions. President Fillmore kept aloof from the conflict, without any cordial words of cheer to the one party or the other. He was thus forgotten by both. He lived to a ripe old age, and died in Buffalo, N. Y., March 8, 1874.



Franklin Pierce



FRANKLIN PIERCE.




FRANKLIN PIERCE, the fourteenth President of the United States, was born in Hillsborough, N. H., Nov. 23, 1804. His father was a Revolutionary soldier, who, with his own strong arm, hewed out a home in the wilderness. He was a man of inflexible integrity; of strong, though uncultivated mind, and an uncompromising Democrat. The mother of Franklin Pierce was all that a son could desire,—an intelligent, prudent, affectionate, Christian woman.

Franklin was the sixth of eight children.

Franklin was a very bright and handsome boy, generous, warm-hearted and brave. He won alike the love of old and young. The boys on the play ground loved him. His teachers loved him. The neighbors looked upon him with pride and affection. He was by instinct a gentleman; always speaking kind words, doing kind deeds, with a peculiar unstudied tact which taught him what was agreeable. Without developing any precocity of genius, or any unnatural devotion to books, he was a good scholar; in body, in mind, in affections, a finely-developed boy.

When sixteen years of age, in the year 1820, he entered Bowdoin College, at Brunswick, Me. He was one of the most popular young men in the college. The purity of his moral character, the unvarying courtesy of his demeanor, his rank as a scholar, and

genial nature, rendered him a universal favorite. There was something very peculiarly winning in his address, and it was evidently not in the slightest degree studied: it was the simple outgushing of his own magnanimous and loving nature.

Upon graduating, in the year 1824, Franklin Pierce commenced the study of law in the office of Judge Woodbury, one of the most distinguished lawyers of the State, and a man of great private worth. The eminent social qualities of the young lawyer, his father's prominence as a public man, and the brilliant political career into which Judge Woodbury was entering, all tended to entice Mr. Pierce into the fascinating yet perilous path of political life. With all the ardor of his nature he espoused the cause of Gen. Jackson for the Presidency. He commenced the practice of law in Hillsborough, and was soon elected to represent the town in the State Legislature. Here he served for four years. The last two years he was chosen speaker of the house by a very large vote.

In 1833, at the age of twenty-nine, he was elected a member of Congress. Without taking an active part in debates, he was faithful and laborious in duty, and ever rising in the estimation of those with whom he was associated.

In 1837, being then but thirty-three years of age, he was elected to the Senate of the United States; taking his seat just as Mr. Van Buren commenced his administration. He was the youngest member in the Senate. In the year 1834, he married Miss Jane Means Appleton, a lady of rare beauty and accomplishments, and one admirably fitted to adorn every station with which her husband was honored. Of the

three sons who were born to them, all now sleep with their parents in the grave.

In the year 1838, Mr. Pierce, with growing fame and increasing business as a lawyer, took up his residence in Concord, the capital of New Hampshire. President Polk, upon his accession to office, appointed Mr. Pierce attorney-general of the United States; but the offer was declined, in consequence of numerous professional engagements at home, and the precarious state of Mrs. Pierce's health. He also, about the same time declined the nomination for governor by the Democratic party. The war with Mexico called Mr. Pierce in the army. Receiving the appointment of brigadier-general, he embarked, with a portion of his troops, at Newport, R. I., on the 27th of May, 1847. He took an important part in this war, proving himself a brave and true soldier.

When Gen. Pierce reached his home in his native State, he was received enthusiastically by the advocates of the Mexican war, and coldly by his opponents. He resumed the practice of his profession, very frequently taking an active part in political questions, giving his cordial support to the pro-slavery wing of the Democratic party. The compromise measures met cordially with his approval; and he strenuously advocated the enforcement of the infamous fugitive-slave law, which so shocked the religious sensibilities of the North. He thus became distinguished as a "Northern man with Southern principles." The strong partisans of slavery in the South consequently regarded him as a man whom they could safely trust in office to carry out their plans.

On the 12th of June, 1852, the Democratic convention met in Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. For four days they continued in session, and in thirty-five ballotings no one had obtained a two-thirds vote. Not a vote thus far had been thrown for Gen. Pierce. Then the Virginia delegation brought forward his name. There were fourteen more ballotings, during which Gen. Pierce constantly gained strength, until, at the forty-ninth ballot, he received two hundred and eighty-two votes, and all other candidates eleven. Gen. Winfield Scott was the Whig candidate. Gen. Pierce was chosen with great unanimity. Only four States—Vermont, Massachusetts, Kentucky and Tennessee—cast their electoral votes against him. Gen. Franklin Pierce was therefore inaugurated President of the United States on the 4th of March, 1853.

His administration proved one of the most stormy our country had ever experienced. The controversy between slavery and freedom was then approaching its culminating point. It became evident that there was an "irrepressible conflict" between them, and that this Nation could not long exist "half slave and half free." President Pierce, during the whole of his administration, did every thing he could to conciliate the South; but it was all in vain. The conflict every year grew more violent, and threats of the dissolution of the Union were borne to the North on every Southern breeze.

Such was the condition of affairs when President Pierce approached the close of his four-years' term of office. The North had become thoroughly alienated from him. The anti-slavery sentiment, goaded by great outrages, had been rapidly increasing; all the intellectual ability and social worth of President Pierce were forgotten in deep reprehension of his administrative acts. The slaveholders of the South, also, unmindful of the fidelity with which he had advocated those measures of Government which they approved, and perhaps, also, feeling that he had rendered himself so unpopular as no longer to be able acceptably to serve them, ungratefully dropped him, and nominated James Buchanan to succeed him.

On the 4th of March, 1857, President Pierce retired to his home in Concord. Of three children, two had died, and his only surviving child had been killed before his eyes by a railroad accident; and his wife, one of the most estimable and accomplished of ladies, was rapidly sinking in consumption. The hour of dreadful gloom soon came, and he was left alone in the world, without wife or child.

When the terrible Rebellion burst forth, which divided our country into two parties, and two only, Mr. Pierce remained steadfast in the principles which he had always cherished, and gave his sympathies to that pro-slavery party with which he had ever been allied. He declined to do anything, either by voice or pen, to strengthen the hand of the National Government. He continued to reside in Concord until the time of his death, which occurred in October, 1869. He was one of the most genial and social of men, an honored communicant of the Episcopal Church, and one of the kindest of neighbors. Generous to a fault, he contributed liberally for the alleviation of suffering and want, and many of his townspeople were often gladdened by his material bounty.



James Buchanan



JAMES BUCHANAN.



JAMES BUCHANAN, the fifteenth President of the United States, was born in a small frontier town, at the foot of the eastern ridge of the Alleghanies, in Franklin Co., Penn., on the 23d of April, 1791. The place where the humble cabin of his father stood was called Stony Batter. It was a wild and romantic spot in a gorge of the mountains, with towering summits rising grandly all around. His father was a native of the north of Ireland; a poor man, who had emigrated in 1783, with little property save his own strong arms. Five years afterwards he married Elizabeth Spear, the daughter of a respectable farmer, and, with his young bride, plunged into the wilderness, staked his claim, reared his log-hut, opened a clearing with his axe, and settled down there to perform his obscure part in the drama of life. In this secluded home, where James was born, he remained for eight years, enjoying but few social or intellectual advantages. When James was eight years of age, his father removed to the village of Mercersburg, where his son was placed at school, and commenced a course of study in English, Latin and Greek. His progress was rapid, and at the age of fourteen, he entered Dickinson College, at Carlisle. Here he developed remarkable talent, and took his stand among the first scholars in the institution. His application to study was intense, and yet his native powers en-

abled him to master the most abstruse subjects with facility.

In the year 1809, he graduated with the highest honors of his class. He was then eighteen years of age; tall and graceful, vigorous in health, fond of athletic sport, an unerring shot, and enlivened with an exuberant flow of animal spirits. He immediately commenced the study of law in the city of Lancaster, and was admitted to the bar in 1812, when he was but twenty-one years of age. Very rapidly he rose in his profession, and at once took undisputed stand with the ablest lawyers of the State. When but twenty-six years of age, unaided by counsel, he successfully defended before the State Senate one of the judges of the State, who was tried upon articles of impeachment. At the age of thirty it was generally admitted that he stood at the head of the bar; and there was no lawyer in the State who had a more lucrative practice.

In 1820, he reluctantly consented to run as a candidate for Congress. He was elected, and for ten years he remained a member of the Lower House. During the vacations of Congress, he occasionally tried some important case. In 1831, he retired altogether from the toils of his profession, having acquired an ample fortune.

Gen. Jackson, upon his elevation to the Presidency, appointed Mr. Buchanan minister to Russia. The duties of his mission he performed with ability, which gave satisfaction to all parties. Upon his return, in 1833, he was elected to a seat in the United States Senate. He there met, as his associates, Webster, Clay, Wright and Calhoun. He advocated the measures proposed by President Jackson, of making retri-

sals against France, to enforce the payment of our claims against that country; and defended the course of the President in his unprecedented and wholesale removal from office of those who were not the supporters of his administration. Upon this question he was brought into direct collision with Henry Clay. He also, with voice and vote, advocated expunging from the journal of the Senate the vote of censure against Gen. Jackson for removing the deposits. Earnestly he opposed the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, and urged the prohibition of the circulation of anti-slavery documents by the United States mails.

As to petitions on the subject of slavery, he advocated that they should be respectfully received; and that the reply should be returned, that Congress had no power to legislate upon the subject. "Congress," said he, "might as well undertake to interfere with slavery under a foreign government as in any of the States where it now exists."

Upon Mr. Polk's accession to the Presidency, Mr. Buchanan became Secretary of State, and as such, took his share of the responsibility in the conduct of the Mexican War. Mr. Polk assumed that crossing the Nueces by the American troops into the disputed territory was not wrong, but for the Mexicans to cross the Rio Grande into that territory was a declaration of war. No candid man can read with pleasure the account of the course our Government pursued in that movement.

Mr. Buchanan identified himself thoroughly with the party devoted to the perpetuation and extension of slavery, and brought all the energies of his mind to bear against the Wilmot Proviso. He gave his cordial approval to the compromise measures of 1850, which included the fugitive-slave law. Mr. Pierce, upon his election to the Presidency, honored Mr. Buchanan with the mission to England.

In the year 1856, a national Democratic convention nominated Mr. Buchanan for the Presidency. The political conflict was one of the most severe in which our country has ever engaged. All the friends of slavery were on one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition, on the other. Mr. Fremont, the candidate of the enemies of slavery, received 114 electoral votes. Mr. Buchanan received 174, and was elected. The popular vote stood 1,340,618, for Fremont, 1,224,750 for Buchanan. On March 4th, 1857, Mr. Buchanan was inaugurated.

Mr. Buchanan was far advanced in life. Only four years were wanting to fill up his threescore years and ten. His own friends, those with whom he had been allied in political principles and action for years, were seeking the destruction of the Government, that they might rear upon the ruins of our free institutions a nation whose corner-stone should be human slavery. In this emergency, Mr. Buchanan was hopelessly bewildered. He could not, with his long-avowed prin-

ciples, consistently oppose the State-rights party in their assumptions. As President of the United States, bound by his oath faithfully to administer the laws, he could not, without perjury of the grossest kind, unite with those endeavoring to overthrow the republic. He therefore did nothing.

The opponents of Mr. Buchanan's administration nominated Abraham Lincoln as their standard bearer in the next Presidential canvass. The pro-slavery party declared, that if he were elected, and the control of the Government were thus taken from their hands, they would secede from the Union, taking with them, as they retired, the National Capitol at Washington, and the lion's share of the territory of the United States.

Mr. Buchanan's sympathy with the pro-slavery party was such, that he had been willing to offer them far more than they had ventured to claim. All the South had professed to ask of the North was non-intervention upon the subject of slavery. Mr. Buchanan had been ready to offer them the active co-operation of the Government to defend and extend the institution.

As the storm increased in violence, the slaveholders claiming the right to secede, and Mr. Buchanan avowing that Congress had no power to prevent it, one of the most pitiable exhibitions of governmental imbecility was exhibited the world has ever seen. He declared that Congress had no power to enforce its laws in any State which had withdrawn, or which was attempting to withdraw from the Union. This was not the doctrine of Andrew Jackson, when, with his hand upon his sword-hilt, he exclaimed, "The Union must and shall be preserved!"

South Carolina seceded in December, 1860; nearly three months before the inauguration of President Lincoln. Mr. Buchanan looked on in listless despair. The rebel flag was raised in Charleston; Fort Sumpter was besieged; our forts, navy-yards and arsenals were seized; our depots of military stores were plundered; and our custom-houses and post-offices were appropriated by the rebels.

The energy of the rebels, and the imbecility of our Executive, were alike marvelous. The Nation looked on in agony, waiting for the slow weeks to glide away, and close the administration, so terrible in its weakness. At length the long-looked-for hour of deliverance came, when Abraham Lincoln was to receive the scepter.

The administration of President Buchanan was certainly the most calamitous our country has experienced. His best friends cannot recall it with pleasure. And still more deplorable it is for his fame, that in that dreadful conflict which rolled its billows of flame and blood over our whole land, no word came from his lips to indicate his wish that our country's banner should triumph over the flag of the rebellion. He died at his Wheatland retreat, June 1, 1868.



Your friend & ever
A. Lincoln

ABRAHAM

LINCOLN.



ABRAM LINCOLN, the sixteenth President of the United States, was born in Hardin Co., Ky., Feb. 12, 1809. About the year 1780, a man by the name of Abraham Lincoln left Virginia with his family and moved into the then wilds of Kentucky. Only two years after this emigration, still a young man, while working one day in a field, was stealthily approached by an Indian and shot dead. His widow was left in extreme poverty with five little children, three boys and two girls. Thomas, the youngest of the boys, was four years of age at his father's death. This Thomas was the father of Abraham Lincoln, the President of the United States

whose name must henceforth forever be enrolled with the most prominent in the annals of our world.

Of course no record has been kept of the life of one so lowly as Thomas Lincoln. He was among the poorest of the poor. His home was a wretched log-cabin; his food the coarsest and the meanest. Education he had none; he could never either read or write. As soon as he was able to do anything for himself, he was compelled to leave the cabin of his starving mother, and push out into the world, a friendless, wandering boy, seeking work. He hired himself out, and thus spent the whole of his youth as a laborer in the fields of others.

When twenty-eight years of age he built a log-cabin of his own, and married Nancy Hanks, the daughter of another family of poor Kentucky emigrants, who had also come from Virginia. Their second child was Abraham Lincoln, the subject of this sketch. The mother of Abraham was a noble woman, gentle, loving, pensive, created to adorn a palace, doomed to toil and pine, and die in a hovel. "All that I am, or hope to be," exclaims the grateful son "I owe to my angel-mother."

When he was eight years of age, his father sold his

cabin and small farm, and moved to Indiana. Where two years later his mother died.

Abraham soon became the scribe of the uneducated community around him. He could not have had a better school than this to teach him to put thoughts into words. He also became an eager reader. The books he could obtain were few; but these he read and re-read until they were almost committed to memory.

As the years rolled on, the lot of this lowly family was the usual lot of humanity. There were joys and griefs, weddings and funerals. Abraham's sister Sarah, to whom he was tenderly attached, was married when a child of but fourteen years of age, and soon died. The family was gradually scattered. Mr. Thomas Lincoln sold out his squatter's claim in 1830, and emigrated to Macon Co., Ill.

Abraham Lincoln was then twenty-one years of age. With vigorous hands he aided his father in rearing another log-cabin. Abraham worked diligently at this until he saw the family comfortably settled, and their small lot of enclosed prairie planted with corn, when he announced to his father his intention to leave home, and to go out into the world and seek his fortune. Little did he or his friends imagine how brilliant that fortune was to be. He saw the value of education, and was intensely earnest to improve his mind to the utmost of his power. He saw the ruin which ardent spirits were causing, and became strictly temperate; refusing to allow a drop of intoxicating liquor to pass his lips. And he had read in God's word, "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain;" and a profane expression he was never heard to utter. Religion he revered. His morals were pure, and he was uncontaminated by a single vice.

Young Abraham worked for a time as a hired laborer among the farmers. Then he went to Springfield, where he was employed in building a large flat-boat. In this he took a herd of swine, floated them down the Sangamon to the Illinois, and thence by the Mississippi to New Orleans. Whatever Abraham Lincoln undertook, he performed so faithfully as to give great satisfaction to his employers. In this adven-

ture his employers were so well pleased, that upon his return they placed a store and mill under his care.

In 1832, at the outbreak of the Black Hawk war, he enlisted and was chosen captain of a company. He returned to Sangamon County, and although only 23 years of age, was a candidate for the Legislature, but was defeated. He soon after received from Andrew Jackson the appointment of Postmaster of New Salem. His only post-office was his hat. All the letters he received he carried there ready to deliver to those he chanced to meet. He studied surveying, and soon made this his business. In 1834 he again became a candidate for the Legislature, and was elected. Mr. Stuart, of Springfield, advised him to study law. He walked from New Salem to Springfield, borrowed of Mr. Stuart a load of books, carried them back and began his legal studies. When the Legislature assembled he trudged on foot with his pack on his back one hundred miles to Vandalia, then the capital. In 1836 he was re-elected to the Legislature. Here it was he first met Stephen A. Douglas. In 1839 he removed to Springfield and began the practice of law. His success with the jury was so great that he was soon engaged in almost every noted case in the circuit.

In 1854 the great discussion began between Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Douglas, on the slavery question. In the organization of the Republican party in Illinois, in 1856, he took an active part, and at once became one of the leaders in that party. Mr. Lincoln's speeches in opposition to Senator Douglas in the contest in 1858 for a seat in the Senate, form a most notable part of his history. The issue was on the slavery question, and he took the broad ground of the Declaration of Independence, that all men are created equal. Mr. Lincoln was defeated in this contest, but won a far higher prize.

The great Republican Convention met at Chicago on the 16th of June, 1860. The delegates and strangers who crowded the city amounted to twenty-five thousand. An immense building called "The Wigwam," was reared to accommodate the Convention. There were eleven candidates for whom votes were thrown. William H. Seward, a man whose fame as a statesman had long filled the land, was the most prominent. It was generally supposed he would be the nominee. Abraham Lincoln, however, received the nomination on the third ballot. Little did he then dream of the weary years of toil and care, and the bloody death, to which that nomination doomed him: and as little did he dream that he was to render services to his country, which would fix upon him the eyes of the whole civilized world, and which would give him a place in the affections of his countrymen, second only, if second, to that of Washington.

Election day came and Mr. Lincoln received 180 electoral votes out of 203 cast, and was, therefore, constitutionally elected President of the United States. The tirade of abuse that was poured upon this good

and merciful man, especially by the slaveholders, was greater than upon any other man ever elected to this high position. In February, 1861, Mr. Lincoln started for Washington, stopping in all the large cities on his way making speeches. The whole journey was fraught with much danger. Many of the Southern States had already seceded, and several attempts at assassination were afterwards brought to light. A gang in Baltimore had arranged, upon his arrival to "get up a row," and in the confusion to make sure of his death with revolvers and hand-grenades. A detective unravelled the plot. A secret and special train was provided to take him from Harrisburg, through Baltimore, at an unexpected hour of the night. The train started at half-past ten; and to prevent any possible communication on the part of the Secessionists with their Confederate gang in Baltimore, as soon as the train had started the telegraph-wires were cut. Mr. Lincoln reached Washington in safety and was inaugurated, although great anxiety was felt by all loyal people.

In the selection of his cabinet Mr. Lincoln gave to Mr. Seward the Department of State, and to other prominent opponents before the convention he gave important positions.

During no other administration have the duties devolving upon the President been so manifold, and the responsibilities so great, as those which fell to the lot of President Lincoln. Knowing this, and feeling his own weakness and inability to meet, and in his own strength to cope with, the difficulties, he learned early to seek Divine wisdom and guidance in determining his plans, and Divine comfort in all his trials, both personal and national. Contrary to his own estimate of himself, Mr. Lincoln was one of the most courageous of men. He went directly into the rebel capital just as the retreating foe was leaving, with no guard but a few sailors. From the time he had left Springfield, in 1861, however, plans had been made for his assassination, and he at last fell a victim to one of them. April 14, 1865, he, with Gen. Grant, was urgently invited to attend Ford's Theater. It was announced that they would be present. Gen. Grant, however, left the city. President Lincoln, feeling, with his characteristic kindness of heart, that it would be a disappointment if he should fail them, very reluctantly consented to go. While listening to the play an actor by the name of John Wilkes Booth entered the box where the President and family were seated, and fired a bullet into his brains. He died the next morning at seven o'clock.

Never before, in the history of the world was a nation plunged into such deep grief by the death of its ruler. Strong men met in the streets and wept in speechless anguish. It is not too much to say that a nation was in tears. His was a life which will fitly become a model. His name as the savior of his country will live with that of Washington's, its father; his countrymen being unable to decide which is the greater.



Andrew Johnson



ANDREW JOHNSON, seventeenth President of the United States. The early life of Andrew Johnson contains but the record of poverty, destitution and friendlessness. He was born December 29, 1808, in Raleigh, N. C. His parents, belonging to the class of the "poor whites" of the South, were in such circumstances, that they could not confer even the slightest advantages of education upon their child. When Andrew was five years of age, his father accidentally

lost his life while heroically endeavoring to save a friend from drowning. Until ten years of age, Andrew was a ragged boy about the streets, supported by the labor of his mother, who obtained her living with her own hands.

He then, having never attended a school one day, and being unable either to read or write, was apprenticed to a tailor in his native town. A gentleman was in the habit of going to the tailor's shop occasionally, and reading to the boys at work there. He often read from the speeches of distinguished British statesmen. Andrew, who was endowed with a mind of more than ordinary native ability, became much interested in these speeches; his ambition was roused, and he was inspired with a strong desire to learn to read.

He accordingly applied himself to the alphabet, and with the assistance of some of his fellow-workmen, learned his letters. He then called upon the gentleman to borrow the book of speeches. The owner,

pleased with his zeal, not only gave him the book, but assisted him in learning to combine the letters into words. Under such difficulties he pressed onward laboriously, spending usually ten or twelve hours at work in the shop, and then robbing himself of rest and recreation to devote such time as he could to reading.

He went to Tennessee in 1826, and located at Greenville, where he married a young lady who possessed some education. Under her instructions he learned to write and cipher. He became prominent in the village debating society, and a favorite with the students of Greenville College. In 1828, he organized a working man's party, which elected him alderman, and in 1830 elected him mayor, which position he held three years.

He now began to take a lively interest in political affairs; identifying himself with the working-classes, to which he belonged. In 1835, he was elected a member of the House of Representatives of Tennessee. He was then just twenty-seven years of age. He became a very active member of the legislature, gave his adhesion to the Democratic party, and in 1840 "stumped the State," advocating Martin Van Buren's claims to the Presidency, in opposition to those of Gen. Harrison. In this campaign he acquired much readiness as a speaker, and extended and increased his reputation.

In 1841, he was elected State Senator; in 1843, he was elected a member of Congress, and by successive elections, held that important post for ten years. In 1853, he was elected Governor of Tennessee, and was re-elected in 1855. In all these responsible positions, he discharged his duties with distinguished abil-

ity, and proved himself the warm friend of the working classes. In 1857, Mr. Johnson was elected United States Senator.

Years before, in 1845, he had warmly advocated the annexation of Texas, stating however, as his reason, that he thought this annexation would probably prove "to be the gateway out of which the sable sons of Africa are to pass from bondage to freedom, and become merged in a population congenial to themselves." In 1850, he also supported the compromise measures, the two essential features of which were, that the white people of the Territories should be permitted to decide for themselves whether they would enslave the colored people or not, and that the free States of the North should return to the South persons who attempted to escape from slavery.

Mr. Johnson was never ashamed of his lowly origin: on the contrary, he often took pride in avowing that he owed his distinction to his own exertions. "Sir," said he on the floor of the Senate, "I do not forget that I am a mechanic; neither do I forget that Adam was a tailor and sewed fig-leaves, and that our Savior was the son of a carpenter."

In the Charleston-Baltimore convention of 1860, he was the choice of the Tennessee Democrats for the Presidency. In 1861, when the purpose of the Southern Democracy became apparent, he took a decided stand in favor of the Union, and held that "slavery must be held subordinate to the Union at whatever cost." He returned to Tennessee, and repeatedly imperiled his own life to protect the Unionists of Tennessee. Tennessee having seceded from the Union, President Lincoln, on March 4th, 1862, appointed him Military Governor of the State, and he established the most stringent military rule. His numerous proclamations attracted wide attention. In 1864, he was elected Vice-President of the United States, and upon the death of Mr. Lincoln, April 15, 1865, became President. In a speech two days later he said, "The American people must be taught, if they do not already feel, that treason is a crime and must be punished; that the Government will not always bear with its enemies; that it is strong not only to protect, but to punish. * * The people must understand that it (treason) is the blackest of crimes, and will surely be punished." Yet his whole administration, the history of which is so well known, was in utter inconsistency with, and the most violent

opposition to, the principles laid down in that speech.

In his loose policy of reconstruction and general amnesty, he was opposed by Congress; and he characterized Congress as a new rebellion, and lawlessly defied it, in everything possible, to the utmost. In the beginning of 1868, on account of "high crimes and misdemeanors," the principal of which was the removal of Secretary Stanton, in violation of the Tenure of Office Act, articles of impeachment were preferred against him, and the trial began March 23.

It was very tedious, continuing for nearly three months. A test article of the impeachment was at length submitted to the court for its action. It was certain that as the court voted upon that article so would it vote upon all. Thirty-four voices pronounced the President guilty. As a two-thirds vote was necessary to his condemnation, he was pronounced acquitted, notwithstanding the great majority against him. The change of one vote from the *not guilty* side would have sustained the impeachment.

The President, for the remainder of his term, was but little regarded. He continued, though impotently, his conflict with Congress. His own party did not think it expedient to renominate him for the Presidency. The Nation rallied, with enthusiasm unparalleled since the days of Washington, around the name of Gen. Grant. Andrew Johnson was forgotten. The bullet of the assassin introduced him to the President's chair. Notwithstanding this, never was there presented to a man a better opportunity to immortalize his name, and to win the gratitude of a nation. He failed utterly. He retired to his home in Greenville, Tenn., taking no very active part in politics until 1875. On Jan. 26, after an exciting struggle, he was chosen by the Legislature of Tennessee, United States Senator in the forty-fourth Congress, and took his seat in that body, at the special session convened by President Grant, on the 5th of March. On the 27th of July, 1875, the ex-President made a visit to his daughter's home, near Carter Station, Tenn. When he started on his journey, he was apparently in his usual vigorous health, but on reaching the residence of his child the following day, was stricken with paralysis, rendering him unconscious. He rallied occasionally, but finally passed away at 2 A.M., July 31, aged sixty-seven years. His funeral was attended at Greenville, on the 3d of August, with every demonstration of respect.



G. S. Brant

ULYSSES S. GRANT.



ULYSSES S. GRANT, the eighteenth President of the United States, was born on the 29th of April, 1822, of Christian parents, in a humble home, at Point Pleasant, on the banks of the Ohio. Shortly after his father moved to Georgetown, Brown Co., O. In this remote frontier hamlet, Ulysses received a common-school education. At the age of seventeen, in the year 1839, he entered the Military Academy at West Point. Here he was regarded as a solid, sensible young man of fair abilities, and of sturdy, honest character. He took respectable rank as a scholar. In June, 1843, he graduated, about the middle in his class, and was sent as lieutenant of infantry to one of the distant military posts in the Missouri Territory. Two years he past in these dreary solitudes, watching the vagabond and exasperating Indians.

The war with Mexico came. Lieut. Grant was sent with his regiment to Corpus Christi. His first battle was at Palo Alto. There was no chance here for the exhibition of either skill or heroism, nor at Resaca de la Palma, his second battle. At the battle of Monterey, his third engagement, it is said that he performed a signal service of daring and skillful horsemanship. His brigade had exhausted its ammunition. A messenger must be sent for more, along a route exposed to the bullets of the foe. Lieut. Grant, adopting an expedient learned of the Indians, grasped the mane of his horse, and hanging upon one side of the animal, ran the gauntlet in entire safety.

From Monterey he was sent, with the fourth infantry, to aid Gen. Scott, at the siege of Vera Cruz. In preparation for the march to the city of Mexico, he was appointed quartermaster of his regiment. At the battle of Molino del Rey, he was promoted to a first lieutenancy, and was brevetted captain at Chapultepec.

At the close of the Mexican War, Capt. Grant returned with his regiment to New York, and was again sent to one of the military posts on the frontier. The discovery of gold in California causing an immense tide of emigration to flow to the Pacific shores, Capt. Grant was sent with a battalion to Fort Dallas, in Oregon, for the protection of the interests of the immigrants. Life was wearisome in those wilds. Capt. Grant resigned his commission and returned to the States; and having married, entered upon the cultivation of a small farm near St. Louis, Mo. He had but little skill as a farmer. Finding his toil not remunerative, he turned to mercantile life, entering into the leather business, with a younger brother, at Galena, Ill. This was in the year 1860. As the tidings of the rebels firing on Fort Sumpter reached the ears of Capt. Grant in his counting-room, he said,—“Uncle Sam has educated me for the army; though I have served him through one war, I do not feel that I have yet repaid the debt. I am still ready to discharge my obligations. I shall therefore buckle on my sword and see Uncle Sam through this war too.”

He went into the streets, raised a company of volunteers, and led them as their captain to Springfield, the capital of the State, where their services were offered to Gov. Yates. The Governor, impressed by the zeal and straightforward executive ability of Capt. Grant, gave him a desk in his office, to assist in the volunteer organization that was being formed in the State in behalf of the Government. On the 15th of

June, 1861, Capt. Grant received a commission as Colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Illinois Volunteers. His merits as a West Point graduate, who had served for 15 years in the regular army, were such that he was soon promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General and was placed in command at Cairo. The rebels raised their banner at Paducah, near the mouth of the Tennessee River. Scarcely had its folds appeared in the breeze ere Gen. Grant was there. The rebels fled. Their banner fell, and the star and stripes were unfurled in its stead.

He entered the service with great determination and immediately began active duty. This was the beginning, and until the surrender of Lee at Richmond he was ever pushing the enemy with great vigor and effectiveness. At Belmont, a few days later, he surprised and routed the rebels, then at Fort Henry won another victory. Then came the brilliant fight at Fort Donelson. The nation was electrified by the victory, and the brave leader of the boys in blue was immediately made a Major-General, and the military district of Tennessee was assigned to him.

Like all great captains, Gen. Grant knew well how to secure the results of victory. He immediately pushed on to the enemies' lines. Then came the terrible battles of Pittsburg Landing, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg, where Gen. Pemberton made an unconditional surrender of the city with over thirty thousand men and one-hundred and seventy-two cannon. The fall of Vicksburg was by far the most severe blow which the rebels had thus far encountered, and opened up the Mississippi from Cairo to the Gulf.

Gen. Grant was next ordered to co-operate with Gen. Banks in a movement upon Texas, and proceeded to New Orleans, where he was thrown from his horse, and received severe injuries, from which he was laid up for months. He then rushed to the aid of Gens. Rosecrans and Thomas at Chattanooga, and by a wonderful series of strategic and technical measures put the Union Army in fighting condition. Then followed the bloody battles at Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, in which the rebels were routed with great loss. This won for him unbounded praise in the North. On the 4th of February, 1864, Congress revived the grade of lieutenant-general, and the rank was conferred on Gen. Grant. He repaired to Washington to receive his credentials and enter upon the duties of his new office.

Gen. Grant decided as soon as he took charge of the army to concentrate the widely-dispersed National troops for an attack upon Richmond, the nominal capital of the Rebellion, and endeavor there to destroy the rebel armies which would be promptly assembled from all quarters for its defence. The whole continent seemed to tremble under the tramp of these majestic armies, rushing to the decisive battle field. Steamers were crowded with troops. Railway trains were burdened with closely packed thousands. His plans were comprehensive and involved a series of campaigns, which were executed with remarkable energy and ability, and were consummated at the surrender of Lee, April 9, 1865.

The war was ended. The Union was saved. The almost unanimous voice of the Nation declared Gen. Grant to be the most prominent instrument in its salvation. The eminent services he had thus rendered the country brought him conspicuously forward as the Republican candidate for the Presidential chair.

At the Republican Convention held at Chicago, May 21, 1868, he was unanimously nominated for the Presidency, and at the autumn election received a majority of the popular vote, and 214 out of 294 electoral votes.

The National Convention of the Republican party which met at Philadelphia on the 5th of June, 1872, placed Gen. Grant in nomination for a second term by a unanimous vote. The selection was emphatically indorsed by the people five months later, 292 electoral votes being cast for him.

Soon after the close of his second term, Gen. Grant started upon his famous trip around the world. He visited almost every country of the civilized world, and was everywhere received with such ovations and demonstrations of respect and honor, private as well as public and official, as were never before bestowed upon any citizen of the United States.

He was the most prominent candidate before the Republican National Convention in 1880 for a re-nomination for President. He went to New York and embarked in the brokerage business under the firm name of Grant & Ward. The latter proved a villain, wrecked Grant's fortune, and for larceny was sent to the penitentiary. The General was attacked with cancer in the throat, but suffered in his stoic-like manner, never complaining. He was re-instated as General of the Army and retired by Congress. The cancer soon finished its deadly work, and July 23, 1885, the nation went in mourning over the death of the illustrious General.



Sincerely
R. B. Hayes



RUTHERFORD B. HAYES.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, the nineteenth President of the United States, was born in Delaware, O., Oct. 4, 1822, almost three months after the death of his father, Rutherford Hayes. His ancestry on both the paternal and maternal sides, was of the most honorable character. It can be traced, it is said, as far back as 1280, when Hayes and Rutherford were two Scottish chieftains, fighting side by side with Baliol, William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Both families belonged to the nobility, owned extensive estates, and had a large following. Misfortune overtaking the family, George Hayes left Scotland in 1680, and settled in Windsor, Conn. His son George was born in Windsor, and remained there during his life. Daniel Hayes, son of the latter, married Sarah Lee, and lived from the time of his marriage until his death in Simsbury, Conn. Ezekiel, son of Daniel, was born in 1724, and was a manufacturer of scythes at Bradford, Conn. Rutherford Hayes, son of Ezekiel and grandfather of President Hayes, was born in New Haven, in August, 1756. He was a farmer, blacksmith and tavern-keeper. He emigrated to Vermont at an unknown date, settling in Brattleboro, where he established a hotel. Here his son Rutherford Hayes the father of President Hayes, was

born. He was married, in September, 1813, to Sophia Birchard, of Wilmington, Vt., whose ancestors emigrated thither from Connecticut, they having been among the wealthiest and best families of Norwich. Her ancestry on the male side are traced back to 1635, to John Birchard, one of the principal founders of Norwich. Both of her grandfathers were soldiers in the Revolutionary War.

The father of President Hayes was an industrious, frugal and opened-hearted man. He was of a mechanical turn, and could mend a plow, knit a stocking, or do almost anything else that he choose to undertake. He was a member of the Church, active in all the benevolent enterprises of the town, and conducted his business on Christian principles. After the close of the war of 1812, for reasons inexplicable to his neighbors, he resolved to emigrate to Ohio.

The journey from Vermont to Ohio in that day, when there were no canals, steamers, nor railways, was a very serious affair. A tour of inspection was first made, occupying four months. Mr. Hayes determined to move to Delaware, where the family arrived in 1817. He died July 22, 1822, a victim of malarial fever, less than three months before the birth of the son, of whom we now write. Mrs. Hayes, in her sore bereavement, found the support she so much needed in her brother Sardis, who had been a member of the household from the day of its departure from Vermont, and in an orphan girl whom she had adopted some time before as an act of charity.

Mrs. Hayes at this period was very weak, and the

subject of this sketch was so feeble at birth that he was not expected to live beyond a month or two at most. As the months went by he grew weaker and weaker, so that the neighbors were in the habit of inquiring from time to time "if Mrs. Hayes' baby died last night." On one occasion a neighbor, who was on familiar terms with the family, after alluding to the boy's big head, and the mother's assiduous care of him, said in a bantering way, "That's right! Stick to him. You have got him along so far, and I shouldn't wonder if he would really come to something yet."

"You need not laugh," said Mrs. Hayes. "You wait and see. You can't tell but I shall make him President of the United States yet." The boy lived, in spite of the universal predictions of his speedy death; and when, in 1825, his older brother was drowned, he became, if possible, still dearer to his mother.

The boy was seven years old before he went to school. His education, however, was not neglected. He probably learned as much from his mother and sister as he would have done at school. His sports were almost wholly within doors, his playmates being his sister and her associates. These circumstances tended, no doubt, to foster that gentleness of disposition, and that delicate consideration for the feelings of others, which are marked traits of his character.

His uncle Sardis Birchard took the deepest interest in his education; and as the boy's health had improved, and he was making good progress in his studies, he proposed to send him to college. His preparation commenced with a tutor at home; but he was afterwards sent for one year to a professor in the Wesleyan University, in Middletown, Conn. He entered Kenyon College in 1838, at the age of sixteen, and was graduated at the head of his class in 1842.

Immediately after his graduation he began the study of law in the office of Thomas Sparrow, Esq., in Columbus. Finding his opportunities for study in Columbus somewhat limited, he determined to enter the Law School at Cambridge, Mass., where he remained two years.

In 1845, after graduating at the Law School, he was admitted to the bar at Marietta, Ohio, and shortly afterward went into practice as an attorney-at-law with Ralph P. Buckland, of Fremont. Here he remained three years, acquiring but a limited practice, and apparently unambitious of distinction in his profession.

In 1849 he moved to Cincinnati, where his ambition found a new stimulus. For several years, however, his progress was slow. Two events, occurring at this period, had a powerful influence upon his subsequent life. One of these was his marriage with Miss Lucy Ware Webb, daughter of Dr. James Webb, of Chillicothe; the other was his introduction to the Cincinnati Literary Club, a body embracing among its members such men as Chief Justice Salmon P. Chase,

Gen. John Pope, Gov. Edward F. Noyes, and many others hardly less distinguished in after life. The marriage was a fortunate one in every respect, as everybody knows. Not one of all the wives of our Presidents was more universally admired, revered and beloved than was Mrs. Hayes, and no one did more than she to reflect honor upon American womanhood. The Literary Club brought Mr. Hayes into constant association with young men of high character and noble aims, and lured him to display the qualities so long hidden by his bashfulness and modesty.

In 1850 he was nominated to the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas; but he declined to accept the nomination. Two years later, the office of city solicitor becoming vacant, the City Council elected him for the unexpired term.

In 1861, when the Rebellion broke out, he was at the zenith of his professional life. His rank at the bar was among the first. But the news of the attack on Fort Sumpter found him eager to take up arms for the defense of his country.

His military record was bright and illustrious. In October, 1861, he was made Lieutenant-Colonel, and in August, 1862, promoted Colonel of the 79th Ohio regiment, but he refused to leave his old comrades and go among strangers. Subsequently, however, he was made Colonel of his old regiment. At the battle of South Mountain he received a wound, and while faint and bleeding displayed courage and fortitude that won admiration from all.

Col. Hayes was detached from his regiment, after his recovery, to act as Brigadier-General, and placed in command of the celebrated Kanawha division, and for gallant and meritorious services in the battles of Winchester, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek, he was promoted Brigadier-General. He was also brevetted Major-General, "for gallant and distinguished services during the campaigns of 1864, in West Virginia." In the course of his arduous services, four horses were shot from under him, and he was wounded four times.

In 1864, Gen. Hayes was elected to Congress, from the Second Ohio District, which had long been Democratic. He was not present during the campaign, and after his election was importuned to resign his commission in the army; but he finally declared, "I shall never come to Washington until I can come by the way of Richmond." He was re-elected in 1866.

In 1867, Gen. Hayes was elected Governor of Ohio, over Hon. Allen G. Thurman, a popular Democrat. In 1869 was re-elected over George H. Pendleton. He was elected Governor for the third term in 1875.

In 1876 he was the standard bearer of the Republican Party in the Presidential contest, and after a hard long contest was chosen President, and was inaugurated Monday, March 5, 1875. He served his full term, not, however, with satisfaction to his party, but his administration was an average one.



James A. Garfield

JAMES A. GARFIELD.

JAMES A. GARFIELD, twentieth President of the United States, was born Nov. 19, 1831, in the woods of Orange, Cuyahoga Co., O. His parents were Abram and Eliza (Ballou) Garfield, both of New England ancestry and from families well known in the early history of that section of our country, but had moved to the Western Reserve, in Ohio, early in its settlement.

The house in which James A. was born was not unlike the houses of poor Ohio farmers of that day. It was about 20 x 30 feet, built of logs, with the spaces between the logs filled with clay. His father was a hard working farmer, and he soon had his fields cleared, an orchard planted, and a log barn built. The household comprised the father and mother and their four children—Mehetabel, Thomas, Mary and James. In May, 1823, the father, from a cold contracted in helping to put out a forest fire, died. At this time James was about eighteen months old, and Thomas about ten years old. No one, perhaps, can tell how much James was indebted to his brother's toil and self-sacrifice during the twenty years succeeding his father's death, but undoubtedly very much. He now lives in Michigan, and the two sisters live in Solon, O., near their birthplace.

The early educational advantages young Garfield enjoyed were very limited, yet he made the most of them. He labored at farm work for others, did carpenter work, chopped wood, or did anything that would bring in a few dollars to aid his widowed mother in her struggles to keep the little family to-

gether. Nor was Gen. Garfield ever ashamed of his origin, and he never forgot the friends of his struggling childhood, youth and manhood, neither did they ever forget him. When in the highest seats of honor, the humblest friend of his boyhood was as kindly greeted as ever. The poorest laborer was sure of the sympathy of one who had known all the bitterness of want and the sweetness of bread earned by the sweat of the brow. He was ever the simple, plain, modest gentleman.

The highest ambition of young Garfield until he was about sixteen years old was to be a captain of a vessel on Lake Erie. He was anxious to go aboard a vessel, which his mother strongly opposed. She finally consented to his going to Cleveland, with the understanding, however, that he should try to obtain some other kind of employment. He walked all the way to Cleveland. This was his first visit to the city. After making many applications for work, and trying to get aboard a lake vessel, and not meeting with success, he engaged as a driver for his cousin, Amos Letcher, on the Ohio & Pennsylvania Canal. He remained at this work but a short time when he went home, and attended the seminary at Chester for about three years, when he entered Hiram and the Eclectic Institute, teaching a few terms of school in the meantime, and doing other work. This school was started by the Disciples of Christ in 1850, of which church he was then a member. He became janitor and bell-ringer in order to help pay his way. He then became both teacher and pupil. He soon "exhausted Hiram" and needed more; hence, in the fall of 1854, he entered Williams College, from which he graduated in 1856, taking one of the highest honors of his class. He afterwards returned to Hiram College as its President. As above stated, he early united with the Christian or Disciples Church at Hiram, and was ever after a devoted, zealous member, often preaching in its pulpit and places where he happened to be. Dr. Noah Porter, President of Yale College, says of him in reference to his religion:

"President Garfield was more than a man of strong moral and religious convictions. His whole history, from boyhood to the last, shows that duty to man and to God, and devotion to Christ and life and faith and spiritual commission were controlling springs of his being, and to a more than usual degree. In my judgment there is no more interesting feature of his character than his loyal allegiance to the body of Christians in which he was trained, and the fervent sympathy which he ever showed in their Christian communion. Not many of the few 'wise and mighty and noble who are called' show a similar loyalty to the less stately and cultured Christian communions in which they have been reared. Too often it is true that as they step upward in social and political significance they step upward from one degree to another in some of the many types of fashionable Christianity. President Garfield adhered to the church of his mother, the church in which he was trained, and in which he served as a pillar and an evangelist, and yet with the largest and most unsectarian charity for all 'who love our Lord in sincerity.'"

Mr. Garfield was united in marriage with Miss Lucretia Rudolph, Nov. 11, 1858, who proved herself worthy as the wife of one whom all the world loved and mourned. To them were born seven children, five of whom are still living, four boys and one girl.

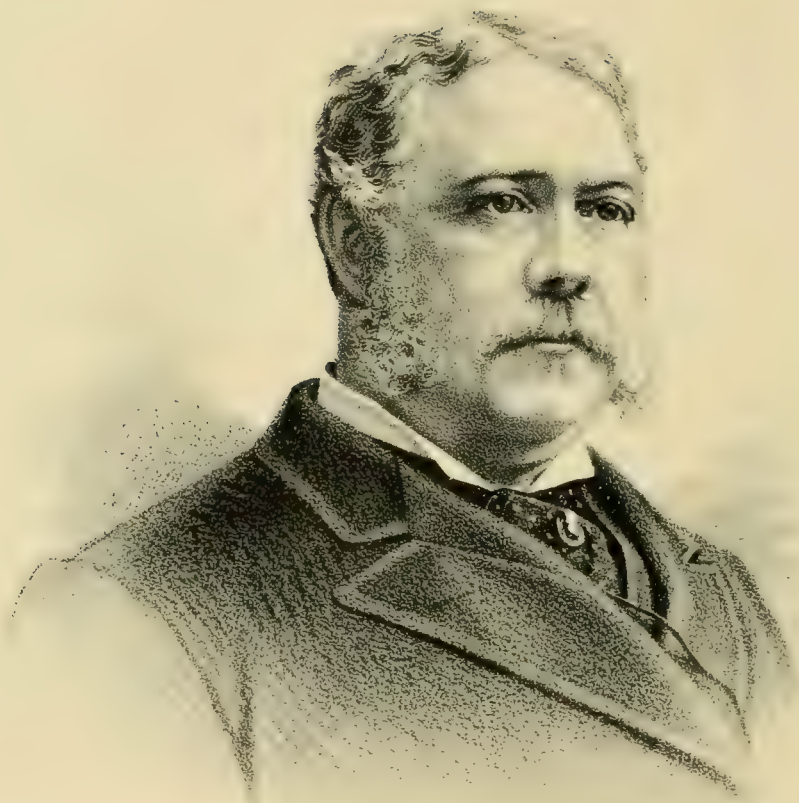
Mr. Garfield made his first political speeches in 1856, in Hiram and the neighboring villages, and three years later he began to speak at county mass-meetings, and became the favorite speaker wherever he was. During this year he was elected to the Ohio Senate. He also began to study law at Cleveland, and in 1861 was admitted to the bar. The great Rebellion broke out in the early part of this year, and Mr. Garfield at once resolved to fight as he had talked, and enlisted to defend the old flag. He received his commission as Lieut.-Colonel of the Forty-second Regiment of Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Aug. 14, 1861. He was immediately put into active service, and before he had ever seen a gun fired in action, was placed in command of four regiments of infantry and eight companies of cavalry, charged with the work of driving out of his native State the officer (Humphrey Marshall) reputed to be the ablest of those, not educated to war whom Kentucky had given to the Rebellion. This work was bravely and speedily accomplished, although against great odds. President Lincoln, on his success commissioned him Brigadier-General, Jan. 10, 1862; and as "he had been the youngest man in the Ohio Senate two years before, so now he was the youngest General in the army." He was with Gen. Buell's army at Shiloh, in its operations around Corinth and its march through Alabama. He was then detailed as a member of the General Court-Martial for the trial of Gen. Fitz-John Porter. He was then ordered to report to Gen. Rosecrans, and was assigned to the "Chief of Staff."

The military history of Gen. Garfield closed with

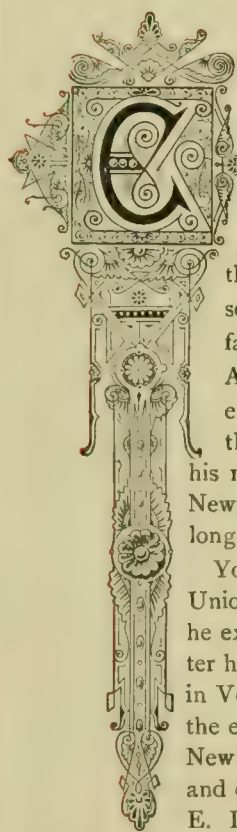
his brilliant services at Chickamauga, where he won the stars of the Major-General.

Without an effort on his part Gen. Garfield was elected to Congress in the fall of 1862 from the Nineteenth District of Ohio. This section of Ohio had been represented in Congress for sixty years mainly by two men—Elisha Whittlesey and Joshua R. Giddings. It was not without a struggle that he resigned his place in the army. At the time he entered Congress he was the youngest member in that body. There he remained by successive re-elections until he was elected President in 1880. Of his labors in Congress Senator Hoar says: "Since the year 1864 you cannot think of a question which has been debated in Congress, or discussed before a tribunal of the American people, in regard to which you will not find, if you wish instruction, the argument on one side stated, in almost every instance better than by anybody else, in some speech made in the House of Representatives or on the hustings by Mr. Garfield."

Upon Jan. 14, 1880, Gen. Garfield was elected to the U. S. Senate, and on the eighth of June, of the same year, was nominated as the candidate of his party for President at the great Chicago Convention. He was elected in the following November, and on March 4, 1881, was inaugurated. Probably no administration ever opened its existence under brighter auspices than that of President Garfield, and every day it grew in favor with the people, and by the first of July he had completed all the initiatory and preliminary work of his administration and was preparing to leave the city to meet his friends at Williams College. While on his way and at the depot, in company with Secretary Blaine, a man stepped behind him, drew a revolver, and fired directly at his back. The President tottered and fell, and as he did so the assassin fired a second shot, the bullet cutting the left coat sleeve of his victim, but inflicting no further injury. It has been very truthfully said that this was "the shot that was heard round the world." Never before in the history of the Nation had anything occurred which so nearly froze the blood of the people for the moment, as this awful deed. He was smitten on the brightest, gladdest day of all his life, and was at the summit of his power and hope. For eighty days, all during the hot months of July and August, he lingered and suffered. He, however, remained master of himself till the last, and by his magnificent bearing was teaching the country and the world the noblest of human lessons—how to live grandly in the very clutch of death. Great in life, he was surpassingly great in death. He passed serenely away Sept. 19, 1883, at Elberon, N. J., on the very bank of the ocean, where he had been taken shortly previous. The world wept at his death, as it never had done on the death of any other man who had ever lived upon it. The murderer was duly tried, found guilty and executed, in one year after he committed the foul deed.



C. A. Arthur,



CHESTER A. ARTHUR, twenty-first President of the United States, was born in Franklin County, Vermont, on the fifth of October, 1830, and is the oldest of a family of two sons and five daughters. His father was the Rev. Dr. William Arthur, a Baptist clergyman, who emigrated to this country from the county Antrim, Ireland, in his 18th year, and died in 1875, in Newtonville, near Albany, after a long and successful ministry.

Young Arthur was educated at Union College, Schenectady, where he excelled in all his studies. After his graduation he taught school in Vermont for two years, and at the expiration of that time came to New York, with \$500 in his pocket, and entered the office of ex-Judge E. D. Culver as student. After being admitted to the bar he formed

a partnership with his intimate friend and room-mate, Henry D. Gardiner, with the intention of practicing in the West, and for three months they roamed about in the Western States in search of an eligible site, but in the end returned to New York, where they hung out their shingle, and entered upon a successful career almost from the start. General Arthur soon afterward married the daughter of Lieutenant

Herndon, of the United States Navy, who was lost at sea. Congress voted a gold medal to his widow in recognition of the bravery he displayed on that occasion. Mrs. Arthur died shortly before Mr. Arthur's nomination to the Vice Presidency, leaving two children.

Gen. Arthur obtained considerable legal celebrity in his first great case, the famous Lemmon suit, brought to recover possession of eight slaves who had been declared free by Judge Paine, of the Superior Court of New York City. It was in 1852 that Jonathan Lemmon, of Virginia, went to New York with his slaves, intending to ship them to Texas, when they were discovered and freed. The Judge decided that they could not be held by the owner under the Fugitive Slave Law. A howl of rage went up from the South, and the Virginia Legislature authorized the Attorney General of that State to assist in an appeal. Wm. M. Evarts and Chester A. Arthur were employed to represent the People, and they won their case, which then went to the Supreme Court of the United States. Charles O'Connor here espoused the cause of the slave-holders, but he too was beaten by Messrs. Evarts and Arthur, and a long step was taken toward the emancipation of the black race.

Another great service was rendered by General Arthur in the same cause in 1856. Lizzie Jennings, a respectable colored woman, was put off a Fourth Avenue car with violence after she had paid her fare. General Arthur sued on her behalf, and secured a verdict of \$500 damages. The next day the company issued an order to admit colored persons to ride on their cars, and the other car companies quickly

followed their example. Before that the Sixth Avenue Company ran a few special cars for colored persons and the other lines refused to let them ride at all.

General Arthur was a delegate to the Convention at Saratoga that founded the Republican party. Previous to the war he was Judge-Advocate of the Second Brigade of the State of New York, and Governor Morgan, of that State, appointed him Engineer-in-Chief of his staff. In 1861, he was made Inspector General, and soon afterward became Quartermaster-General. In each of these offices he rendered great service to the Government during the war. At the end of Governor Morgan's term he resumed the practice of the law, forming a partnership with Mr. Ransom, and then Mr. Phelps, the District Attorney of New York, was added to the firm. The legal practice of this well-known firm was very large and lucrative, each of the gentlemen composing it were able lawyers, and possessed a splendid local reputation, if not indeed one of national extent.

He always took a leading part in State and city politics. He was appointed Collector of the Port of New York by President Grant, Nov. 21 1872, to succeed Thomas Murphy, and held the office until July, 20, 1878, when he was succeeded by Collector Merritt.

Mr. Arthur was nominated on the Presidential ticket, with Gen. James A. Garfield, at the famous National Republican Convention held at Chicago in June, 1880. This was perhaps the greatest political convention that ever assembled on the continent. It was composed of the leading politicians of the Republican party, all able men, and each stood firm and fought vigorously and with signal tenacity for their respective candidates that were before the convention for the nomination. Finally Gen. Garfield received the nomination for President and Gen. Arthur for Vice-President. The campaign which followed was one of the most animated known in the history of our country. Gen. Hancock, the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, was a popular man, and his party made a valiant fight for his election.

Finally the election came and the country's choice was Garfield and Arthur. They were inaugurated March 4, 1881, as President and Vice-President. A few months only had passed ere the newly chosen President was the victim of the assassin's bullet. Then came terrible weeks of suffering,—those moments of anxious suspense, when the hearts of all civilized na-

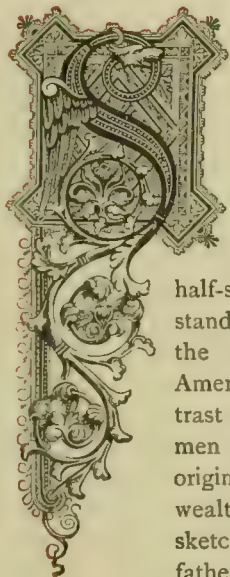
tions were throbbing in unison, longing for the recovery of the noble, the good President. The remarkable patience that he manifested during those hours and weeks, and even months, of the most terrible suffering man has often been called upon to endure, was seemingly more than human. It was certainly God-like. During all this period of deepest anxiety Mr. Arthur's every move was watched, and be it said to his credit that his every action displayed only an earnest desire that the suffering Garfield might recover, to serve the remainder of the term he had so auspiciously begun. Not a selfish feeling was manifested in deed or look of this man, even though the most honored position in the world was at any moment likely to fall to him.

At last God in his mercy relieved President Garfield from further suffering, and the world, as never before in its history over the death of any other man, wept at his bier. Then it became the duty of the Vice President to assume the responsibilities of the high office, and he took the oath in New York, Sept. 20, 1881. The position was an embarrassing one to him, made doubly so from the facts that all eyes were on him, anxious to know what he would do, what policy he would pursue, and who he would select as advisers. The duties of the office had been greatly neglected during the President's long illness, and many important measures were to be immediately decided by him; and still farther to embarrass him he did not fail to realize under what circumstances he became President, and knew the feelings of many on this point. Under these trying circumstances President Arthur took the reins of the Government in his own hands; and, as embarrassing as were the condition of affairs, he happily surprised the nation, acting so wisely that but few criticised his administration. He served the nation well and faithfully, until the close of his administration, March 4, 1885, and was a popular candidate before his party for a second term. His name was ably presented before the convention at Chicago, and was received with great favor, and doubtless but for the personal popularity of one of the opposing candidates, he would have been selected as the standard-bearer of his party for another campaign. He retired to private life carrying with him the best wishes of the American people, whom he had served in a manner satisfactory to them and with credit to himself.



Grover Cleveland

S. Grover Cleveland.



STEPHEN GROVER CLEVELAND, the twenty-second President of the United States, was born in 1837, in the obscure town of Caldwell, Essex Co., N. J., and in a little two-and-a-

half-story white house which is still standing, characteristically to mark the humble birth-place of one of America's great men in striking contrast with the Old World, where all men high in office must be high in origin and born in the cradle of wealth. When the subject of this sketch was three years of age, his father, who was a Presbyterian min-

ister, with a large family and a small salary, moved, by way of the Hudson River and Erie Canal, to Fayetteville, in search of an increased income and a larger field of work. Fayetteville was then the most straggling of country villages, about five miles from Pompey Hill, where Governor Seymour was born.

At the last mentioned place young Grover commenced going to school in the "good, old-fashioned way," and presumably distinguished himself after the manner of all village boys, in doing the things he ought not to do. Such is the distinguishing trait of all geniuses and independent thinkers. When he arrived at the age of 14 years, he had outgrown the capacity of the village school and expressed a most

emphatic desire to be sent to an academy. To this his father decidedly objected. Academies in those days cost money; besides, his father wanted him to become self-supporting by the quickest possible means, and this at that time in Fayetteville seemed to be a position in a country store, where his father and the large family on his hands had considerable influence. Grover was to be paid \$50 for his services the first year, and if he proved trustworthy he was to receive \$100 the second year. Here the lad commenced his career as salesman, and in two years he had earned so good a reputation for trustworthiness that his employers desired to retain him for an indefinite length of time. Otherwise he did not exhibit as yet any particular "flashes of genius" or eccentricities of talent. He was simply a good boy.

But instead of remaining with this firm in Fayetteville, he went with the family in their removal to Clinton, where he had an opportunity of attending a high school. Here he industriously pursued his studies until the family removed with him to a point on Black River known as the "Holland Patent," a village of 500 or 600 people, 15 miles north of Utica, N. Y. At this place his father died, after preaching but three Sundays. This event broke up the family, and Grover set out for New York City to accept, at a small salary, the position of "under-teacher" in an asylum for the blind. He taught faithfully for two years, and although he obtained a good reputation in this capacity, he concluded that teaching was not his

calling for life, and, reversing the traditional order, he left the city to seek his fortune, instead of going to a city. He first thought of Cleveland, Ohio, as there was some charm in that name for him; but before proceeding to that place he went to Buffalo to ask the advice of his uncle, Lewis F. Allan, a noted stock-breeder of that place. The latter did not speak enthusiastically. "What is it you want to do, my boy?" he asked. "Well, sir, I want to study law," was the reply. "Good gracious!" remarked the old gentleman; "do you, indeed? What ever put that into your head? How much money have you got?" "Well, sir, to tell the truth, I haven't got any."

After a long consultation, his uncle offered him a place temporarily as assistant herd-keeper, at \$50 a year, while he could "look around." One day soon afterward he boldly walked into the office of Rogers, Bowen & Rogers, of Buffalo, and told them what he wanted. A number of young men were already engaged in the office, but Grover's persistency won, and he was finally permitted to come as an office boy and have the use of the law library, for the nominal sum of \$3 or \$4 a week. Out of this he had to pay for his board and washing. The walk to and from his uncle's was a long and rugged one; and, although the first winter was a memorably severe one, his shoes were out of repair and his overcoat—he had none—yet he was nevertheless prompt and regular. On the first day of his service here, his senior employer threw down a copy of Blackstone before him with a bang that made the dust fly, saying "That's where they all begin." A titter ran around the little circle of clerks and students, as they thought that was enough to scare young Grover out of his plans; but in due time he mastered that cumbersome volume. Then, as ever afterward, however, Mr. Cleveland exhibited a talent for executiveness rather than for chasing principles through all their metaphysical possibilities. "Let us quit talking and go and do it," was practically his motto.

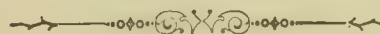
The first public office to which Mr. Cleveland was elected was that of Sheriff of Erie Co., N. Y., in which Buffalo is situated; and in such capacity it fell to his duty to inflict capital punishment upon two criminals. In 1881 he was elected Mayor of the City of Buffalo, on the Democratic ticket, with especial reference to the bringing about certain reforms

in the administration of the municipal affairs of that city. In this office, as well as that of Sheriff, his performance of duty has generally been considered fair, with possibly a few exceptions which were ferreted out and magnified during the last Presidential campaign. As a specimen of his plain language in a veto message, we quote from one vetoing an iniquitous street-cleaning contract: "This is a time for plain speech, and my objection to your action shall be plainly stated. I regard it as the culmination of a most bare-faced, impudent and shameless scheme to betray the interests of the people and to worse than squander the people's money." The *New York Sun* afterward very highly commended Mr. Cleveland's administration as Mayor of Buffalo, and thereupon recommended him for Governor of the Empire State. To the latter office he was elected in 1882, and his administration of the affairs of State was generally satisfactory. The mistakes he made, if any, were made very public throughout the nation after he was nominated for President of the United States. For this high office he was nominated July 11, 1884, by the National Democratic Convention at Chicago, when other competitors were Thomas F. Bayard, Roswell P. Flower, Thomas A. Hendricks, Benjamin F. Butler, Allen G. Thurman, etc.; and he was elected by the people, by a majority of about a thousand, over the brilliant and long-tried Republican statesman, James G. Blaine. President Cleveland resigned his office as Governor of New York in January, 1885, in order to prepare for his duties as the Chief Executive of the United States, in which capacity his term commenced at noon on the 4th of March, 1885. For his Cabinet officers he selected the following gentlemen: For Secretary of State, Thomas F. Bayard, of Delaware; Secretary of the Treasury, Daniel Manning, of New York; Secretary of War, William C. Endicott, of Massachusetts; Secretary of the Navy, William C. Whitney, of New York; Secretary of the Interior, L. Q. C. Lamar, of Mississippi; Postmaster-General, William F. Vilas, of Wisconsin; Attorney-General, A. H. Garland, of Arkansas.

The silver question precipitated a controversy between those who were in favor of the continuance of silver coinage and those who were opposed, Mr. Cleveland answering for the latter, even before his inauguration.



Benj. Harrison



BENJAMIN HARRISON, the twenty-third President, is the descendant of one of the historical families of this country. The head of the family was a Major General Harrison, one of Oliver Cromwell's trusted followers and fighters. In the zenith of Cromwell's power it became the duty of this Harrison to participate in the trial of Charles I, and afterward to sign the death warrant of the king. He subsequently paid for this with his life, being hung Oct. 13, 1660.* His descendants came to America, and the next of the family that appears in history is Benjamin Harrison, of Virginia, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, and after whom he was named. Benjamin Harrison was a member of the Continental Congress during the years 1774-5-6, and was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was three times elected Governor of Virginia.

Gen. William Henry Harrison, the son of the

distinguished patriot of the Revolution, after a successful career as a soldier during the War of 1812, and with a clean record as Governor of the Northwestern Territory, was elected President of the United States in 1840. His career was cut short by death within one month after his inauguration.

President Harrison was born at North Bend, Hamilton Co., Ohio, Aug. 20, 1833. His life up to the time of his graduation by the Miami University, at Oxford, Ohio, was the uneventful one of a country lad of a family of small means. His father was able to give him a good education, and nothing more. He became engaged while at college to the daughter of Dr. Scott, Principal of a female school at Oxford. After graduating he determined to enter upon the study of the law. He went to Cincinnati and then read law for two years. At the expiration of that time young Harrison received the only inheritance of his life; his aunt dying left him a lot valued at \$800. He regarded this legacy as a fortune, and decided to get married at once, take this money and go to some Eastern town and begin the practice of law. He sold his lot, and with the money in his pocket, he started out with his young wife to fight for a place in the world. He

decided to go to Indianapolis, which was even at that time a town of promise. He met with slight encouragement at first, making scarcely anything the first year. He worked diligently, applying himself closely to his calling, built up an extensive practice and took a leading rank in the legal profession. He is the father of two children.

In 1860 Mr. Harrison was nominated for the position of Supreme Court Reporter, and then began his experience as a stump speaker. He canvassed the State thoroughly, and was elected by a handsome majority. In 1862 he raised the 17th Indiana Infantry, and was chosen its Colonel. His regiment was composed of the rawest of material, but Col. Harrison employed all his time at first mastering military tactics and drilling his men, when he therefore came to move toward the East with Sherman his regiment was one of the best drilled and organized in the army. At Resaca he especially distinguished himself, and for his bravery at Peachtree Creek he was made a Brigadier General, Gen. Hooker speaking of him in the most complimentary terms.

During the absence of Gen. Harrison in the field the Supreme Court declared the office of the Supreme Court Reporter vacant, and another person was elected to the position. From the time of leaving Indiana with his regiment until the fall of 1864 he had taken no leave of absence, but having been nominated that year for the same office, he got a thirty-day leave of absence, and during that time made a brilliant canvass of the State, and was elected for another term. He then started to rejoin Sherman, but on the way was stricken down with scarlet fever, and after a most trying siege made his way to the front in time to participate in the closing incidents of the war.

In 1868 Gen. Harrison declined a re-election as reporter, and resumed the practice of law. In 1876 he was a candidate for Governor. Although defeated, the brilliant campaign he made won for him a National reputation, and he was much sought, especially in the East, to make speeches. In 1880, as usual, he took an active part in the campaign, and was elected to the United States Senate. Here he served six years, and was known as one of the ablest men, best lawyers and strongest debaters in

that body. With the expiration of his Senatorial term he returned to the practice of his profession, becoming the head of one of the strongest firms in the State.

The political campaign of 1888 was one of the most memorable in the history of our country. The convention which assembled in Chicago in June and named Mr. Harrison as the chief standard bearer of the Republican party, was great in every particular, and on this account, and the attitude it assumed upon the vital questions of the day, chief among which was the tariff, awoke a deep interest in the campaign throughout the Nation. Shortly after the nomination delegations began to visit Mr. Harrison at Indianapolis, his home. This movement became popular, and from all sections of the country societies, clubs and delegations journeyed thither to pay their respects to the distinguished statesman. The popularity of these was greatly increased on account of the remarkable speeches made by Mr. Harrison. He spoke daily all through the summer and autumn to these visiting delegations, and so varied, masterly and eloquent were his speeches that they at once placed him in the foremost rank of American orators and statesmen.

On account of his eloquence as a speaker and his power as a debater, he was called upon at an uncommonly early age to take part in the discussion of the great questions that then began to agitate the country. He was an uncompromising anti-slavery man, and was matched against some of the most eminent Democratic speakers of his State. No man who felt the touch of his blade desired to be pitted with him again. With all his eloquence as an orator he never spoke for oratorical effect, but his words always went like bullets to the mark. He is purely American in his ideas and is a splendid type of the American statesman. Gifted with quick perception, a logical mind and a ready tongue, he is one of the most distinguished impromptu speakers in the Nation. Many of these speeches sparkled with the rarest of eloquence and contained arguments of greatest weight. Many of his terse statements have already become aphorisms. Original in thought, precise in logic, terse in statement, yet withal faultless in eloquence, he is recognized as the sound statesman and brilliant orator of the day.



GOVERNORS.

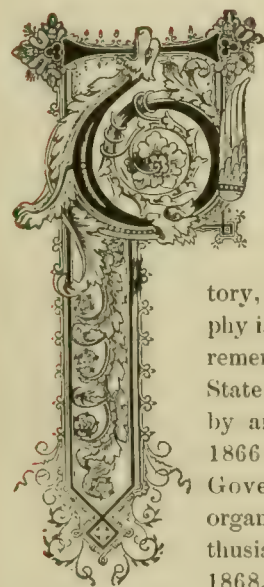






David Butler

DAVID BUTLER.



HE HON. DAVID BUTLER. Closely connected with the early history and the development of Nebraska and associated with it at perhaps the most critical period of its his-

tory, the gentleman whose biography is here sketched must ever be remembered by the citizens of the State in that association. Chosen by an overwhelming majority in 1866 to be the first to occupy the Governor's chair under the new organization; re-elected with enthusiasm to the same office in 1868, and yet again honored by

the confidence of the people in 1870, he has done perhaps as much as any one individual in safely launching the "Ship of State," Nebraska, upon her unparalleled voyage of ever-growing success.

Gov. Butler was born in Greene County, Ind., near the town of Linton, Dec. 15, 1829. He is the eldest son of ten children, of whom six survive. The grandfather of our subject, Thomas Butler, was a native of Virginia, and removed to Indiana and became one of the earliest pioneers of that Territory. As the country developed he was prominently identified with the various enterprises that helped to that end, and enjoyed the greatest confidence and respect of all who knew him. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Robinson.

The father of our subject was born in the year 1809, was reared upon the pioneer farm of his

father, and grew up amid surroundings that would to-day be anything but congenial by reason of the primitive condition. He became an enterprising and prosperous farmer, and also dealt very extensively in cattle. He became the husband of Nancy Christy, the daughter of Joseph Christy, Esq. Like her father, she was born in North Carolina.

The early life and boyhood of our subject were spent amid agricultural surroundings, and such education as he obtained was received first in a private school, where he was prepared for the public institution, in both of which he made rapid progress, and drank as deeply as was permitted at the fountain of knowledge. He remained upon the farm until he was twenty-one years of age, but long before attaining his majority was a thorough, practical farmer, and understood all that was necessary in regard to the management of stock. In his youth he had given promise of powers and intelligence, and though they lay dormant for many years, were bound to make themselves known and felt, as had been the case of the Virginian pioneer in Indiana to whom reference was made above.

Upon attaining his majority Mr. Butler began farming on his own account, supplementing the same by trading in cattle, which he drove through to Wisconsin, where they were at a premium, owing to the fact that the country was just being opened up for settlement. He continued thus engaged until the year 1852, when he embarked in mercantile pursuits, retaining, however, his interest in his cattle trade. These engagements, although somewhat diverse, were not incompatible, and in them he was quite prosperous until the financial

crash of 1857. He was a heavy loser at that time in the failure of the Citizens' Bank at Gosport, Ind., and also through the inability of many of his creditors to meet their payments from a like cause. He, however, struggled manfully against the relentless tide of difficulty that threatened utter ruin, and finally succeeded in paying dollar for dollar of every liability, with interest due. Mr. Butler in early youth took an unusual interest in political questions, and proved that he possessed a grasp of mind and independence of character by forsaking the Democratic traditions of his father's house, and casting his first vote for the Republican party at its birth. In 1856 he was nominated by the Republicans of the Twentieth District in Indiana for the State Senate. Not having had any political experience, and the opposition springing a third candidate, he was persuaded to withdraw before the election, not, however, without having made a spirited canvass, though a partial one.

In the fall of 1859 Mr. Butler removed to Pawnee City, Neb., and there associated himself with the Hon. W. B. Raper, and with that gentleman embarked again in business; but even here he retained his interest in the cattle trade, and was very shortly gratified to see his earnest efforts rewarded, and to be able to fill a larger place than had been possible before his trials in 1857. This partnership lasted until 1861, when Mr. Butler was elected a member of the Territorial Legislature.

In 1863 Mr. Butler was elected State Senator for a term of two years, representing the First District, which comprised the counties of Richardson, Pawnee, Johnson, Gage, Clay, Jefferson, and all the unorganized territory lying to the westward. Both in the House and Senate Mr. Butler made his mark, and did good service for his constituents and the State, and it was as a result of the ability then manifested and recognized, the personal worth and high character sustained by him, that he was nominated and by a large majority vote passed by the hand of the people to the highest chair of office within the gift of the people.

Among the services rendered the State by Mr. Butler while in the Legislature may be mentioned the introduction of a bill for the reapportioning of Nebraska, the passage of which he worked very hard to procure, but in Legislative halls as in every other the green-eyed monster of jealousy is bound to find admittance. It was so in this case, and to this was due the failure of our subject in spite of his hard work; but upon renewing the fight in the Senate he was successful, and the bill went through intact.

As above noted Mr. Butler was elected Governor in 1866 of the newly admitted State, and dur-

ing his term of office managed the affairs of State so wisely and so well as to receive at both the two subsequent elections the expression of a grateful people by re-election to the same high office. While serving his second term as Governor, the Legislature committed to his care the delicate and laborious work of removing the capital from the city of Omaha to a central position in the interior of the State, a part of Nebraska then almost uninhabited. This was successfully accomplished, and a State House, State University and Lunatic Asylum erected without the aid of legislative appropriations. The city of Lincoln with its public buildings is a monument of Gov. Butler's financial sagacity in the management of affairs of State.

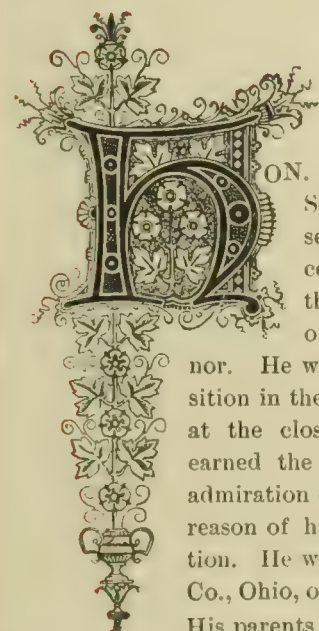
After retiring from the Governorship Mr. Butler returned to and continued mercantile life, prosecuting the interest connected therewith even more extensively than before. He continued to make Pawnee City his headquarters until 1868, when he removed to Lincoln, the capital, residing there until 1874, when he located upon his present farm three miles west of Pawnee City. This beautiful property, which is known as the Uplands Stock Farm, comprises 320 acres, which is supplied with admirably arranged and substantially constructed buildings, such as would be needed for his purpose. Besides dealing in cattle, he raises and feeds quite a large number annually, while every winter considerable attention is paid to the fattening of cattle for the market. At one time he was a breeder of Short-horn cattle, and his farm was well stocked with thoroughbreds of the most favored breeds of both cattle and hogs.

The marriage of Mr. Butler was celebrated in January 1860, when he was united with Miss Lydia Storey, of Bloomington, Ind. The family circle of Gov. Butler comprises four children, who bear the names subjoined: Violet E., Seth D., Darias and Paul. At all times our subject has taken a most active interest in the political and general interests of Nebraska, and has been unfailing in his efforts to advance the same. On the 4th of September, 1888, he was nominated for Governor on the Union Labor ticket as their standard bearer, and stumped the State in behalf of the movement. He is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., and is affiliated with Interior Lodge No. 9, at Pawnee City. Gov. Butler is a man of much reserve force, bright, clear intellect, possessing in no small measure the power that is indispensable in directing and managing enterprises of magnitude. He is at all times a true gentleman, strong in friendship, ever genial, affable and courteous, both winning and retaining the admiration, respect and friendship of his fellows.



Roll. W. Furnas

ROBERT W. FURNAS.



ON. ROBERT WILKINSON FURNAS was the second gentleman to receive from the people of the State the high honor of being elected Governor. He was chosen to fill this position in the year 1873, and retired at the close of his term, having earned the good-will, respect and admiration of the whole people by reason of his excellent administration. He was born in Troy, Miami Co., Ohio, on the 5th of May, 1824. His parents were natives of South Carolina, in which State also the grandfather had been born. His great-grandfather was a member of a good old English family, and was born at Standing Stone, in the county of Cumberland, England. He was brought up and educated in his native place, and when a young man was there married, and then started with his wife for the New World. They landed in South Carolina about the year 1762. Thomas Furnas, the third child of John and Mary Furnas, was born in 1768, six years after the settlement of his parents in America, as above noted. William Furnas was the fifth child and only son of Thomas and Esther Furnas. The chosen occupation of this interesting family for several generations has been that of farming. The chief institution, at that time, of the South, in connection with all labor, especially field work, was that of slavery, and the members of the early generations of this

family were most conscientious members of the Quaker Church, which looked upon it as an abomination. This was the occasion finally of their removal to Ohio, which they did in 1804, settling in the Miami Valley. It was in the home there established that the subject of this sketch was born. He is the eldest of a family of three children, and the only one now living. His twin brother died in infancy, and his younger sister at the age of fifteen.

In 1832 the parents of our subject were stricken down by the ravages of that dreaded plague, the cholera, which swept over the country at that time, taking in its course, old and young, rich and poor, without distinction. In this trying time the natural guardians of the life of our subject, the directors of his footsteps, the instructors of his life, were removed, and he was left to struggle and battle in the conflict of life unaided by them. Then, when the clouds seemed darkest and thickest, his grandfather stepped forward in order to supply, at least in some measure, the place thus left vacant, and with him he remained until he reached his seventeenth year, working on the farm during the summer, and during the winter attending school. He seized every opportunity afforded for the increase of knowledge, and has ever continued to add to his store, and his reputation is that of a well-read, thoroughly educated gentleman.

As soon as our subject attained the above-mentioned age, he went to Covington, Ky., and there served an apprenticeship to the printing business, in the office of the *Licking Valley Register*, published by Richard C. Langdon. It was at that time one

of the most noted newspapers, and its editor, one of the first newspaper men in the West or South. Young Furnas remained in this office until 1843, and acquired a large store of practical knowledge of trade, general business, and life, as well as considerable information upon all ordinary topics, besides the specific attainment desired in the knowledge of the business. The benefit of this schooling is perhaps clearly traceable even in the present, and the immediate past. Leaving Covington he proceeded to Cincinnati, opened a book and job office, and continued in the printing business at that place for two years with good success.

Near the close of that time, and in the year 1845, our subject was united in marriage with Mary S. McComas, a native of Ohio, and a most excellent lady, one who has the power and ability to assist him in life, and fitted to grace any position in society, however high. There have been born of this union five children.

One of the first public engagements entered into by our subject when he became a voter was when, in company with several other young men, he felt the necessity of education as the means necessary to power in this life in any of its relations. They bound themselves to advocate the building of the school-house in Troy, and a lot was reserved for that purpose. Older citizens, perhaps not so well alive to the progressive spirit of the age, thought it unnecessary, and threw in the way a thousand objections. The young men were defeated at the poles the first year, but nothing daunted continued the contest, and the next year carried their point by a small majority, with the result that a \$17,000 school-house was erected, and has stood a monument to the enterprise and foresight of these young men. Upon the success of the above undertaking, Mr. Furnas was elected one of the School Directors, which he continued to be until his removal to Nebraska, when he resigned.

Our subject was only twenty-three years of age when he became proprietor of the *Troy Times*, an organ of the Whig party, of which also he was the editor and publisher, and by his trenchant articles did much service in the Taylor campaign. In 1852 he sold this paper, and was engaged first as Freight and Ticket Agent, afterward as conductor for the

Dayton & Michigan Railroad, continuing until 1856. In March of that year he emigrated to this State, established himself at Brownville, and in July of the same year established the *Brownville Advertiser*, and entered the arena of political life. He became a very zealous advocate of the agricultural and educational interests of the State, and in the fall of that year was elected to the Territorial Legislature. Here the masterly qualities that have since distinguished him before the State were made manifest.

During his term of office, as noted in the foregoing paragraph, our subject originated the school system of the Territory, which was modeled in its general features after the system of Ohio. In the year 1858 he was re-elected and again took his seat in the Legislature. In 1861 he was elected Chief Clerk, and early in the spring was commissioned Colonel in the United States Regular Army, and received orders from the Secretary of War to organize the loyal Indians and have them mustered into the service. He was successful in his mission and raised three regiments. These were fully equipped, and Col. Furnas commanded them in the Southern expedition under Gen. Blunt, which took in the borders of Kansas, Missouri, Arkansas and the Indian Territory. Resigning his commission after having done splendid work with his command, he returned and went to work to recruit, and established the 2d Nebraska Cavalry, and added fresh glories to the already brilliant record of military achievement. With this command he served under Gen. Sully in the now renowned "Sully expedition" against the Sioux Indians, wherein they were pursued to British Columbia.

The next four years our subject was employed as Indian Agent for the Omaha and Winnebago Indians, which he resigned to take his place at the helm of the State as already recorded. Among the many honors worn so gracefully, and in such manly spirit, are: Regent of the State University, President of the State Board of Agriculture, President of the State Agricultural Society, President of the State Soldiers' Union, Vice President of the National Pomological Association, Past Grand Master of the I. O. O. F., Past Grand High Priest, and Past Grand Commander of the Masonic bodies of the State of Nebraska.



Silas Garber



SILAS GARBER.



SILAS GARBER. This distinguished and well-known citizen of Nebraska served the State most acceptably as its Governor for the two terms, from 1874 to 1878. He was born in Logan County, Ohio, Sept. 21, 1833. There he passed his boyhood days, attending the common schools and developing into a sturdy and promising young man. At the early age of seventeen years he was determined to strike out for himself and see what he could do toward making his own living. He was ambitious, yet we very much doubt whether the beard

less young man who turned his face Westward in 1850 ever had the remotest idea that he would himself some day be at the head of a great commonwealth, that would be created still further toward the setting sun. At that time he came into Iowa, which was receiving such floods of emigrants from the older settled States. He located in Clayton County and engaged in agricultural pursuits, the occupation which has done so much toward developing some of the best men our Nation has produced. His life for some years was uneventful,

yet he was being disciplined and prepared for the honorable and useful positions he was to fill in after years. He took an active interest in all public matters, and was a well-informed, hard-working young man.

When the stars and stripes which had so long floated above Ft. Sumter were fired upon and the little garrison compelled to surrender, the patriotism of the North was aroused as never before in the history of the country. Thousands of the best men of the Nation immediately volunteered their services to aid in suppressing the monstrous rebellion, which had replaced the American banner with the stars and bars. Among this vast army of patriotic men might have been found Silas Garber. He was mustered into the 3d Missouri Infantry, which was known as the famous Lyon Regiment. He served with this regiment for one year, when he was mustered out and returned to Clayton County. He, however, did not long remain in the quiet of that peaceful section, for we soon again find him at the front. Now he is First Lieutenant of Company D, 27th Iowa Infantry, which he raised. His valiant services soon received recognition, and he was promoted to be Captain of the company, which position he faithfully and ably filled until the close of the war. He participated in all the battles of the Red River campaign, and

Pleasant Hill, La., the battles of Old Oaks, Miss., Nashville, Tenn., and others under the command of Gen. A. J. Smith.

Upon being mustered out of military service Capt. Garber returned to Clayton County, but soon thereafter went to California, where he passed the next four years. He came to Nebraska in the early part of 1870, and found a suitable location in Webster County, where he still resides, being the oldest resident in Red Cloud. He was indeed a pioneer of the Great West, for when he located in Webster County there were but two settlers in the county.

Upon locating in Red Cloud and ever since Mr. Garber has taken a most important part in both her business and political affairs. He engaged in farming and merchandising, and is to-day President of the Farmers' & Merchants' Banking Com-

pany of that city, and also largely identified with its material interests. He was chosen the first Probate Judge of the county, and also represented his district in the Legislature, and served for one year as Register of the United States Land Office at Lincoln.

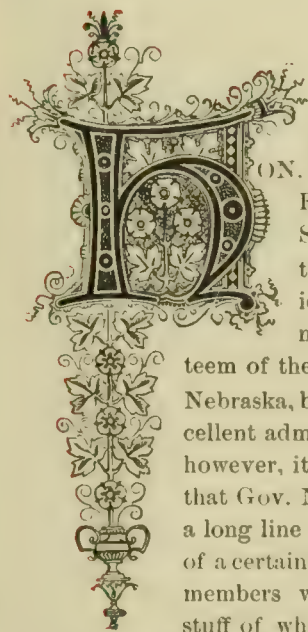
Capt. Garber became popular both with the people and the politicians, and was nominated for Governor by the Republican Convention, which assembled at Lincoln Sept. 3, 1874, and was elected by a handsome majority. He served so acceptably that he was renominated by the convention which met Sept. 26, 1876. He was again endorsed at the polls in November, and served until the close of his term in 1878. He then retired to his home at Red Cloud, where he has since resided, a highly respected and useful citizen.





Albion Nance

ALBINUS NANCE.



ON. ALBINUS NANCE, Fourth Governor of the State of Nebraska, and in that connection the recipient of the confidence, admiration and highest esteem of the people, not simply of Nebraska, but wherever his most excellent administration is known. If, however, it be but borne in mind that Gov. Nance is a descendant of a long line of noble representatives of a certain Huguenot family, whose members were of the stamp and stuff of which martyrs and heroes are made, and therefore persons of thought, conviction and strength of character, it is not surprising that he should possess the same, which under the more happy *regime* of present government and liberality of opinion, should bring him into prominence and enable him in his high station to sustain a reputation most brilliant.

The ancestors of Gov. Nance on his father's side were of that number driven from France by the religious intolerance and persecution that followed the revocation of the Edict of Nantes. With many others similarly situated they came to the New World and formed what became a very prosperous community in the State of North Carolina, their descendants moving North and Westward, ever

in the vanguard of progress, as section after section and district after district were located.

The subject of our sketch was born on the 30th of March, 1848, at Lafayette, Stark Co., Ill., and he is the oldest son of Dr. Hiram Nance, for many years one of the most successful physicians and able surgeons in Central Illinois. His settlement in that State dates back to 1836. It was the Far West of that period, and was filled with far more of danger, difficulty and hardship, and demanded more spirit, bravery and self-denial than is conceivable in these days, when the bands of steel pass by the door of the Western pioneer, and thus bring him into almost immediate contact with the great world of civilization. The ancestry of Gov. Nance upon the maternal side of the family was English. The maiden name of his mother was Sarah R. Smith, who was born in the State of Ohio.

At the outbreak of the Civil War Albinus was but a lad of thirteen, but his patriotic soul was fired with loyal enthusiasm, and he chafed severely at the restraint of years that prevented him taking a more able stand in defense of the Union. At a later period of the struggle and when just sixteen years of age, he enlisted in the 9th Illinois Cavalry. The youthful defender and intrepid young soldier was mustered in contrary to both the wishes and continued earnest protests of his parents and friends. But he could know no restraint in this matter, and was determined to follow the stars and stripes,

and to defend them if so needed until the death.

He continued in the service until the close of the war, and participated as an active combatant in the battles of Guntown, Hurricane Creek, Franklin, Nashville, Tupelo, Spring Hill and Columbia, Tenn. He was one in the line that made one of the most daring and gallant charges at the battle of Nashville, and was slightly wounded in the same.

The necessity for war being passed, Cavalryman Nance returned his saber to its sheath, and when the regiment disbanded returned to his home and became a student at Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., where he took part of the classic course. Soon after leaving college he commenced the study of law, and in 1870 was admitted to the bar by the Supreme Court of Illinois, after passing in the best possible manner a very rigid examination.

Standing upon the threshold of life, the future stretching before him, animated by the grandeur of the prospect supplied by hope and ambition, the subject of our sketch was more fascinated and impressed by the opportunities and inducements held out by the newer country, and pursuant thereto he decided to come to Nebraska, as the most promising of all the States and Territories of that magnificent field. This was in 1871. He secured a homestead in Polk County, devoting part of his time to farming, but the larger part to the practice of his chosen profession; but his experience was such as almost invariably follows—his ability was speedily recognized and his legal work rapidly grew upon his hands, and before long he left his farm to sow and reap in other fields, at once more congenial and lucrative.

In accordance with the decision referred to in the above paragraph, Mr. Nance removed to Osceola, the county seat of Polk County, where before very long he was fully established in legal practice. In 1873 his friends submitted his name to the Republican Convention of the Thirteenth District for Representative in the State Legislature. The counties of Adams, Butler, Clay, Fillmore, Hamilton, Platte, Polk and York sent their delegates, and these gentlemen thus representing the interests of a large body of citizens in those counties, comprised the convention to which his name was presented. There were seven candidates in

all, and each candidate had his circle of friends; these were diligent in season and out of season to advance the interests of the several candidates. Naturally a long and exciting contest was speedily commenced, and watched with deep interest by all. In order that the reader may appreciate the position occupied by the young lawyer in the estimation of the people, and the impress his character and ability had already made, we would notice that after several ballots had been taken the announcement was made that Albinus Nance had received the nomination, and thus began his political career with a clear sun and a fair sky.

The principal opponent of our subject in the convention, urged by his friends, and spurred on by his own, doubtless, laudable ambition, determined to enter the field as an independent candidate, and the most strenuous efforts were made to defeat the regular candidate of the convention, but without success. The election showed a majority of about 2,000 in favor of the subject of this writing.

In 1876 Mr. Nance was one of the six delegates chosen by the Republican State Convention to represent this State at the National Convention at Cincinnati, and was by his fellows elected Chairman of the delegation. During that year he was renominated for the Legislature, indeed, almost without opposition, and at the opening session of the Legislative body he was elected Speaker of the House. If he had made a reputation and record as a member, he more than established it, and added fresh luster in his more advanced position, thus necessarily bringing himself before the people, who at once recognized in him one worthy of additional honors. In 1878 the Republican State Convention nominated him for Governor, and he was elected by a large majority. In 1880 he was renominated by acclamation and with wild enthusiasm, and re-elected by a majority greatly in excess of any other candidate on the State ticket.

One of the happiest steps ever taken by Gov. Nance was that of his union in matrimony in 1875, when he became the husband of Miss Sarah White, daughter of Egbert and Mary White, of Farragut, Iowa, who presented her husband with a bright and beautiful little daughter, who bears the name of Nellie.



James W. Sawes

JAMES W. DAWES.

JAMES W. DAWES. This gentleman was elected Governor in the year 1883, and such was his official deportment that he was renominated with enthusiasm, and re-elected by an appreciative people. He continued to occupy his high position in the service of the State until the year 1887, and during the time gave every evidence that the confidence of those who had elected him in his honor, manhood and ability, was indeed well founded. He was the fifth Governor of the State. Gov.

Dawes was born at McConnelville, Morgan Co., Ohio, on the 8th of January, 1845. He went with his parents when they removed to Wisconsin in 1856. The rudiments and foundation work of his education were received in Ohio, but in the Wisconsin schools the major part of the work was done, and from them our subject was graduated with a good practical English education, such as would serve in the daily affairs of life. As he advanced in years and was capable of doing more service upon the farm, he attended school only in the winters, devoting the summers to husbandry. In October, 1864, he was engaged in clerking for G. J. Hansen & Co., who were engaged as general merchants at Kilbourn

City, Wis., where he continued until October, 1868, and in these four years gained invaluable experience of men and business, adding materially to his store of information, and, unknown to himself, but none the less really, preparing for days of larger opportunity and more important engagements.

The next employment taken up by our subject was that of the study of law, which he began and carried on with his cousin, Julius H. Dawes, Esq., of Fox Lake, Wis., a prominent and successful lawyer. Here our subject devoted every attention, and became a careful, persevering and diligent student, so much so that his examination, which determined his admission to the bar, was unusually brilliant, and he was accordingly admitted with congratulations upon the 10th of January, 1871, and began the practice of his chosen profession, which, from its being eminently congenial and peculiarly well adapted to one of his ability and mental cast, was that in which success in life was more completely assured him.

Not long after the admission of our subject to the bar another, and if anything more important, event occurred. It was that of his marriage. Instances are far too common where an error of judgment or a misplaced confidence at such time has been fraught with disastrous results to both contracting parties; results all the more serious because of the nature and faults of the contract. It was the

happiness of Mr. Dawes and the lady of his choice to be mutually compatible in disposition, tastes, desires, and in fact all the varied points where difference of sentiment would in all probability lead, sooner or later, to a breach of confidence or worse. This union, therefore, has brought a more complete happiness, a more perfect felicity, into both lives, and has made the home all that could be desired. This interesting event occurred at Fox Lake, and was celebrated on the 11th of May, 1871.

Our subject located in Crete, of this State, on the 5th of September, 1871, with the intention of engaging for a time in mercantile pursuits. For some years he continued in this line of business with an ever-growing success and enlarging patronage. In March of 1877 he transferred his energies from commercial pursuits to the legal profession, opening a law office at Crete, and has since been one of the leading lights of the Nebraska bar. He became a member of the Nebraska Constitutional Convention of 1875, and the following year was elected State Senator. During his term of office he won from all golden opinions of his ability and power, and his sojourn in Senatorial halls was, if anything, more pleasant than usual, owing to his genial, affable and courteous manner, which won and retained many much valued friendships, and which was the means of affording him larger opportunities than might have otherwise been possible. His record in this connection is upon the books of the session, and is well known, and does not therefore call for detailed mention in such a writing as the present; suffice it here to remark that it was such as to ultimately lead to his election to the highest official chair in the State..

From May, 1876, to September, 1882, inclusive, the subject of this sketch continued to hold the position as Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee of Nebraska. The long continuance and the number of consecutive terms embraced within the above dates speak more clearly and emphatically his ability and power than anything that might be said in addition. Mr. Dawes was further honored by being elected delegate to the Republican National Convention at Chicago, in June of 1880. This it will be remembered was the convention that nominated the noble, but ill-fated, James A. Gar-

field. The delegation of which he was a member at this time unanimously named him as a member of the National Republican Committee for Nebraska for a term of four years, which it was his privilege to serve with every satisfaction to all parties concerned for that period.

Few men ever felt more the need of education for a people who governed themselves than Gov. Dawes. The absolute necessity of universal education, wide in scope, complete in curriculum, exhaustive in detail, practical in its aim and general utility, was evident to him, and he was therefore deeply interested in educational matters, and his sympathies were always assured for matters connected therewith. He has served in several offices connected with this department, the most important, perhaps, being those of Trustee and Secretary of the Doane College, which is situated at Crete. The duties of these offices have engaged his attention since the year 1875.

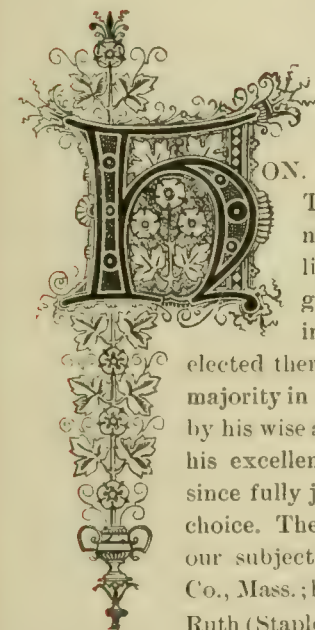
The crowning glory of the official life and public service of the subject of our sketch was that which identified him with the chief office of the State. In the year 1882 he was nominated by the Republican party for Governor. His life was well known, his character thoroughly understood, his past services remembered and appreciated, and accordingly he was received with much favor, and elected amid the plaudits of the whole people. He entered upon the duties of his high office in January, 1883, continuing to discharge the same throughout the usual period of two years. At the expiration thereof he was again nominated by his party and re-elected by the people, and for a second term continued to discharge his duties as before. Is any further proof of his ability, honor, manhood and faithfulness demanded? Can any mere verbose complimentary eulogium express as much as this, especially when it is reinforced by all the accompanying marks of confidence and regard of the people? Gov. Dawes will long be remembered, having won a warm place in the hearts and memories of the people, together with his most excellent administration of affairs, which from first to last materially assisted the onward march and development of Nebraska as a State, and aided in placing her among the very first of all States of the greatest Republic the world has ever known.



John M. Thayer



JOHN M. THAYER.



ON. JOHN M. THAYER.

This distinguished gentleman, whom Nebraska delighted to honor by the gift of the highest office in its power to bestow, was

elected thereto by an overwhelming majority in the autumn of 1886, and by his wise administration of affairs, his excellent executive ability, has since fully justified this enthusiastic choice. The place of the nativity of our subject is Bellingham, Norfolk Co., Mass.; he is the son of Elias and Ruth (Staples) Thayer. The chosen

occupation of the father was farming, and in the physical and moral healthful environment of pastoral life our subject was brought up.

The smallest part of man is the physical, that can be weighed avoirdupois and measured with a tape line; a far greater and nobler is that of stamp divine—the mind, which is the true “standard of the man.” Having in mind the importance of proper instruction, in order to the proper use of this most wonderful instrument, our subject, after the usual preparatory instruction, attended the classes at Brown University, from which institution he was graduated in 1847. The law was the chosen profession of our subject, and at it he worked assiduously until the year 1854, still continuing a resident of his native State, and at that time he removed to the State of Nebraska.

Omaha, then a rising young town, with a newly opened and undeveloped territory all around it, afforded a good field for a young man of education, enterprise, enthusiasm and energy, to “rise up with the country.” In the year 1855 the political arena was entered. Mr. Thayer became one of four candidates for Congressional honors; a splendid run for the office, however, resulted only in defeat, the successful candidate being Fenner Ferguson. The following year was remarkable as that in which the now “grand old party” was organized. The convention was held at Bellevue, and our subject was a candidate for the party nomination, but was defeated by Mr. Daily. This experience was repeated in every particular in June of 1860. He was successful in receiving the nomination to the Territorial Legislature, and served the session of 1860–61.

Our subject entered the service of the United States at the beginning of the Civil War, and received the commission of Colonel of the 1st Nebraska Infantry. In the year 1855 he had been elected by the Territorial Legislature Brigadier General of the Territorial Militia, and afterward promoted to that of Major General of the militia. While in these positions he was frequently led into engagements more or less serious on the frontier, the enemies being the aborigines of that section, who at that time had not entirely ceased their old habits of depredation. The intimate knowledge of our subject concerning the Indians, their surroundings, their attitude, their feelings, and their chiefs, were all of immense value to him. As a case in

point, which we might mention, our subject was appointed by Gov. Izard to act in conjunction with Gov. O. D. Richardson, to inquire into certain outrages by Pawnees, to meet them in council and effect a treaty with them; in this they were fairly successful. But later events proved the lesson was but poorly learned by the Indians. In 1858, with a command of 194 volunteers, our subject went out after the same tribe, certain of their number having murdered, maltreated and robbed the settlers. He captured the entire tribe after a stubbornly contested battle, which was fought on the grounds occupied by the town of Battle Creek, which derives its name from that event.

As Colonel of the 1st Nebraska Infantry, our subject did good work in behalf of the Union, and it was not long before his superior military powers attracted attention, and he was promoted to be Brigadier General and breveted Major General. At Ft. Donelson and Shiloh he commanded a brigade in such excellent manner as led to the above honor. Through the siege of Vicksburg and the capture of Jackson, Miss., he also commanded a brigade, and for a time a division. The confidence of the commanders in him was such that at the assault at Chickasaw Bayou, one of the storming columns was confided to his care. In this fight he had his horse shot under him, and again while leading a charge at Arkansas Post. All the essential features, characteristics and traits of the successful soldier were possessed by him, and this being recognized resulted in the Army of the Frontier being given him to command. Throughout his service in military life he was a true soldier, a favorite with his men, who were confident that he would lead them to success and victory; respected by his officers, who well knew his sagacity and military genius, largely the result of his long experience on the frontier.

In political matters our subject was a Democrat until the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. He sympathized with the Free-Soil movement, but being in the Territory he could not vote. In the year 1856 he supported Fremont, and since that time has continued a staunch Republican. Upon the admission of Nebraska as a State, Mr. Thayer was elected United States Senator in the election of 1866, and served faithfully until the close of his term. At the

expiration thereof he was appointed by Gen. Grant the Governor of Wyoming Territory. In this office the qualities that had made him successful in civil life, that had made him a military leader and commander, the ability that had been developed for the handling of large bodies of men, the harmonizing of heterogeneous elements, combined to make his Governorship one worthy of note, and, doubtless, was the cause of the confidence expressed by the people of Nebraska in after days.

The home of our subject is one that bears in its every-day life and happiness a brightness and completeness that is more to be desired than the amassing of riches, the accumulation of power, or the right to sway the scepter of authority. He was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Mary T. Allen, a lady possessing a disposition, character and intelligence, most beautiful, admirable and clear, one who has been trained to follow closely the Great Exemplar of the true life. She is the daughter of the Rev. John Allen, a clergyman of the Baptist Church, a native of Massachusetts.

Gov. Thayer, though not a member of any special denomination, is a firm believer in the Christian religion, and always has been. His family adhere to the faith of the Baptist Church, of which also his parents were members. In that communion, also, he was trained and brought up, and he has always retained a great desire to help forward every movement of religious nature; whenever it has been possible to elevate the moral standard of the people, his active sympathies were engaged. One feature of his Governorship has been his evident anxiety that a more general and hearty acquiescence to a higher moral and religious standard should obtain, and whatever enterprises, projects, societies or associations, looked to this as their aim and object, were at all times sure of his hearty sympathy and support.

As noted above, our subject stood before the people of Nebraska in the year 1886 as candidate for Governor. He was warmly received, actively and heartily supported, and enthusiastically elected by a majority of 25,000, in which he ran about 2,000 ahead of his ticket. His administration has revealed the wisdom of this choice, and it is not too much to say that the citizens of Nebraska have at no time had occasion to repent of their choice.



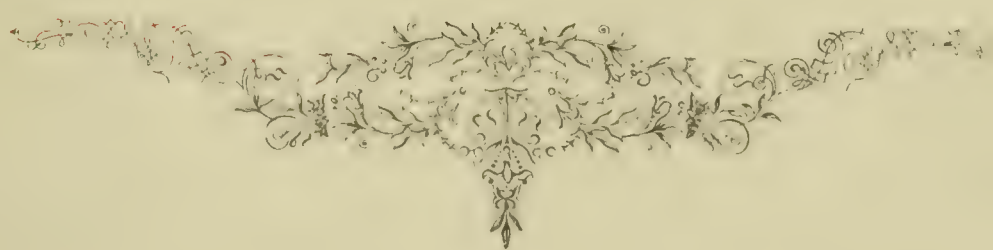






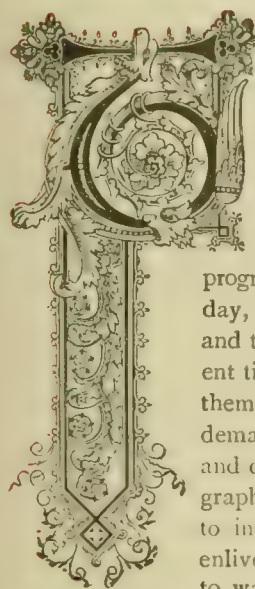


JOHNSON COUNTY,
NEBRASKA.





INTRODUCTORY.



THE time has arrived when it becomes the duty of the people of this county to perpetuate the names of their pioneers, to furnish a record of their early settlement, and relate the story of their

progress. The civilization of our day, the enlightenment of the age and the duty that men of the present time owe to their ancestors, to themselves and to their posterity, demand that a record of their lives and deeds should be made. In biographical history is found a power to instruct man by precedent, to enliven the mental faculties, and to waft down the river of time a

safe vessel in which the names and actions of the people who contributed to raise this country from its primitive state may be preserved. Surely and rapidly the great and aged men, who in their prime entered the wilderness and claimed the virgin soil as their heritage, are passing to their graves. The number remaining who can relate the incidents of the first days of settlement is becoming small indeed, so that an actual necessity exists for the collection and preservation of events without delay, before all the early settlers are cut down by the scythe of Time.

To be forgotten has been the great dread of mankind from remotest ages. All will be forgotten soon enough, in spite of their best works and the most earnest efforts of their friends to preserve the memory of their lives. The means employed to prevent oblivion and to perpetuate their memory has been in proportion to the amount of intelligence they possessed. The pyramids of Egypt were built to perpetuate the names and deeds of their great rulers. The exhumations made by the archeologists of Egypt from buried Memphis indicate a desire of those people

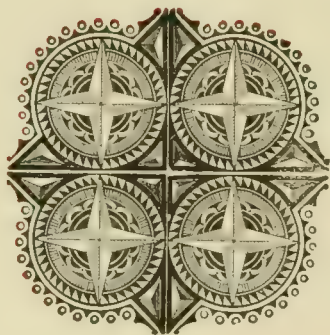
to perpetuate the memory of their achievements. The erection of the great obelisks were for the same purpose. Coming down to a later period, we find the Greeks and Romans erecting mausoleums and monuments, and carving out statues to chronicle their great achievements and carry them down the ages. It is also evident that the Mound-builders, in piling up their great mounds of earth, had but this idea—to leave something to show that they had lived. All these works, though many of them costly in the extreme, give but a faint idea of the lives and characters of those whose memory they were intended to perpetuate, and scarcely anything of the masses of the people that then lived. The great pyramids and some of the obelisks remain objects only of curiosity; the mausoleums, monuments and statues are crumbling into dust.

It was left to modern ages to establish an intelligent, undecaying, immutable method of perpetuating a full history—immutable in that it is almost unlimited in extent and perpetual in its action; and this is through the art of printing.

To the present generation, however, we are indebted for the introduction of the admirable system of local biography. By this system every man, though he has not achieved what the world calls greatness, has the means to perpetuate his life, his history, through the coming ages.

The scythe of Time cuts down all; nothing of the physical man is left. The monument which his children or friends may erect to his memory in the cemetery will crumble into dust and pass away; but his life, his achievements, the work he has accomplished, which otherwise would be forgotten, is perpetuated by a record of this kind.

To preserve the lineaments of our companions we engrave their portraits, for the same reason we collect the attainable facts of their history. Nor do we think it necessary, as we speak only truth of them, to wait until they are dead, or until those who know them are gone: to do this we are ashamed only to publish to the world the history of those whose lives are unworthy of public record.

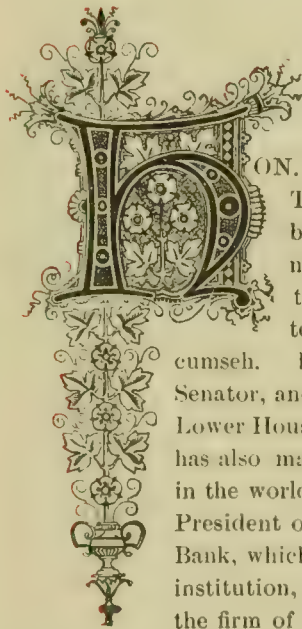




John T. Tully
Castroville



BIOGRAPHICAL.



ON. CHAS. A. HOLMES.

This gentleman is probably one of the most prominent and at the same time truly honorable and esteemed citizens of Tecumseh.

He is at present State Senator, and has also served in the Lower House of the Legislature. He has also made his way to the front in the world of finance, being Vice President of the Tecumseh Savings Bank, which is a popular and solid institution, and is likewise one of the firm of Russell & Holmes, bankers,

who, in 1871, established the first bank in Johnson County, under the above firm name. It is the oldest bank in the Nemaha Valley, but one of the most solid. The first brick building in Tecumseh was erected by this firm, in 1872, on the corner of Third and Clay streets, for the use of the bank, and was so occupied. The bank has a paid-up capital of \$25,000, and a surplus of \$5,000.

The home of our subject is one of the most elegant residences in the district, and is situated upon the summit of an eminence to the south of the city, and stands in its own grounds, comprising perhaps over twenty acres, devoted to the usual gardens, shaded walks and lawns, and is a very fine property. In addition to his residence and the bank building

Mr. Holmes owns many pieces of valuable real estate in the city and surrounding country.

Charles A. Holmes was born in Lockport, Will Co., Ill., on the 6th of June, 1840. When three years of age his parents removed to Jefferson, Wis. There he was reared and educated in part, the instruction he there received being supplemented by that obtained subsequently at Carroll College, Waukesha, Wis., and Lombard University, at Galesburg, Ill., from which institution he was graduated in June, 1862, with the degree of B. A.

On the 11th of August, 1862, our subject enlisted in the 29th Wisconsin Infantry. On the 5th of September he was commissioned Captain of his company, and was attached to the Western Department. He served throughout the Vicksburg campaign, and also on the Red River, with Gen. Banks, in the spring of 1864. He was at the capture of Mobile, at which his regiment and the 8th Illinois were the first to enter the city. He took part also in an endless round of skirmishes and lesser conflicts. At the battle of Champion Hills, on the 16th of May, our subject was wounded so severely as to detain him from active service until the middle of September following. At the close of the war he was mustered out at Shreveport, the date being the 27th of June, 1865, receiving his final discharge at Madison, Wis., on the 17th of July following.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Holmes returned to

Jefferson, Wis., and continued the study of law, which he had been reading with his father previous to his enlistment. He was admitted to the bar of Wisconsin in 1866, continuing in practice there until August, 1871, when he came to Tecumseh, and shortly after formed the present partnership. Those interested in reading further concerning the history of the firm will find additional particulars in the sketch of the life of J. D. Russell, to be found upon another page of this volume.

Mr. Holmes was appointed by President Grant Postmaster at Jefferson, Wis. He received his appointment in 1869, and continued to hold the position until he left Wisconsin. In 1874 Mr. Holmes was elected to the Legislature on the Republican ticket, and took his seat on the 1st of January, 1875. By the Legislature our subject was elected one of the Regents of the State University at Lincoln. This position he continued to fill until the new Constitution went into force, when he was again elected, this time by the people, for a full term, serving in all a period of nine years in that capacity. In 1886 the people again expressed their sentiments of confidence and esteem by electing him to the State Senate. During his term of service he was made Chairman of the University Committee, the Committee on Common Schools, that on Education, and was second on the Committee of Finance. His term expired on the 1st of January, 1889.

Mr. Holmes has always been a very energetic, enterprising, busy man, and yet withal has such capacity for work as never to appear to feel the burden of the various responsibilities and duties devolving upon him. He is prominent in the Masonic fraternity, and has received all the degrees of the Blue Lodge, Chapter and Commandery. He is also an enthusiast in the G. A. R., and very popular therein. In both the above orders he has held various offices, always with the greatest satisfaction to his fellow-members.

On the 29th of August, 1866, our subject and Miss Jennie T. Hurd plighted their troth, since which time the two life streams there united have flowed as one. This event was celebrated at Jerseyville, Jersey Co., Ill. There have come to them eight children, the following of whom are still liv-

ing: Althea M., Mary B., Kate E. and Ruth L. The deceased members of the family, with the exception of Carl W., who died on the 20th of August, 1888, at the age of three years, all died in infancy. The surviving members of the family, excepting Althea M., now Mrs. G. D. Bennett, are at home and are receiving the best education it is within the power of their parents to give.

Mrs. Holmes was born in Jerseyville, on the 26th of February, 1842, and is the daughter of Jay M. Hurd. Her home until her marriage was made with her parents. She is a lady fitted by education, by her home training, and the many graces and womanly virtues that are hers by the gift of nature and heredity, to fill any position in society to which she might be called. She was educated at Galesburg, Ill., and passed the years prior to her marriage engaged in teaching. She is prominent as a worker in the W. C. T. U., and takes the greatest interest in all works of charity and beneficence. With her husband, she is a member of the Universalist Church, and in that communion they are held in the highest possible regard. She is now serving her third term as President of the W. C. T. U., of Nebraska.

John E. Holmes, the father of our subject, was born in Hartford, Conn., in the year 1809. When a young man he went to Western New York, being alone in the world, and compelled to fight his own way, both parents having been removed from his side by the arch-Destroyer Death. He found means to educate himself at Hamilton Academy, in the State of New York, after which he studied for the ministry of the Universalist Church. He supplied various pulpits in the States of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. After his marriage he began the study of law, and upon being admitted to the bar practiced at Lockport, Ill., removing thence after a short period to Jefferson, Wis., in 1843.

Mr. Holmes was married, Aug. 30, 1836, to Ruth A. Hawley, of Milan, Erie Co., Ohio. Four sons were born of this union, all of whom are living. This lady is the daughter of Warren Hawley, and was born on the 8th of October, 1816. She still lives, making her home with our subject, and has reached the ripe age of seventy-two years.

Upon the roll of the Constitutional Convention of Wisconsin, of 1847, will be found the name of John E. Holmes. After that service he was elected by the people to both Houses of the Legislature in that State, and served most satisfactorily. In 1848 he received the nomination, and was elected by a large majority, Lieutenant-Governor of Wisconsin, and was in fact all his life a prominent and respected citizen.

Mr. J. E. Holmes entered the Union Army in June, 1862, and served as Quartermaster of the 22d Wisconsin Infantry. He was captured with his regiment at Brentwood, Tenn, by Gen. Forrest, and thrown into Libby Prison. There he had to endure a severe attack of typhoid fever, unrelieved by any of those attentions needed under such circumstances. He was liberated and exchanged on May 5, and died in the hospital at Annapolis, Md., on the 18th day of May, 1863.

The portrait of Hon. Charles A. Holmes, on an adjoining page, is that of one of the best known and most highly esteemed citizens of Johnson County.



ARTHUR C. SULLIVAN, senior member of the firm of Sullivan & Davis, general merchants at Tecumseh, is a gentleman of fine culture and more than ordinary ability. Socially and financially he is a citizen upon whom the community look with great respect, both on account of his personal worth and his value as a factor among its business interests. He is the offspring of a good family, being the son of Aaron Sullivan, who was born in Winchester, Va., in 1800.

Aaron Sullivan received a good education, and in early manhood engaged in general merchandising at Madison, Ind. Later he moved across the Mississippi into Clark County, Mo., of which he was a resident a number of years, and finally became County Clerk. He disposed of his stock in trade when entering upon the duties of this office, which he held a number of years previous to his death, which occurred at his home in August, 1864. His wife, Mrs. Sarah J. (Thorp) Sullivan, was a native of Kentucky, and they were married about 1846.

Of this union there were born seven children, three only of whom lived to mature years. Mrs. Sarah J. Sullivan is still living and makes her home with our subject in Tecumseh. Aaron Sullivan was a man prominent in his community, officiated as Postmaster and Justice of the Peace, and was finally elected County Judge, which office he held several terms. The mother is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church.

The subject of this sketch was born April 20, 1850, in Winchester, Clark Co., Mo.; where he lived until he attained to the age of fifteen years, and then moved to Warsaw, Ill.; lived there one year, then moved to Keokuk, Iowa, thence to Alexandria, Mo. He was carefully educated, completing his studies in a private school. He entered upon his business career as clerk in a store, where he continued five years. At the expiration of this time he embarked in business for himself in general merchandising, at Alexandria, Mo., where he operated successfully for a period of five years. Upon his withdrawal from this he made his way to Nebraska, and purchased the stock of a dry-goods firm at Tecumseh, and associating himself with a partner they carried on business five years, under the firm name of Calahan & Sullivan.

Mr. Sullivan now purchased the interest of his partner, and in February, 1888, took in Mr. H. C. Davis, and this firm is now recognized as standing upon a solid footing financially, and is in the enjoyment of a steadily growing patronage. Mr. Sullivan is also interested in real estate at Alexandria, Mo. While a resident of that city he was a member of the Council and identified with the School Board. He takes a warm interest in educational matters, and all the enterprises tending to build up the community, morally and financially. At the age of twenty-one years, while a resident of Alexandria, he identified himself with the Masonic fraternity, of which he is still an honored member, belonging to the lodge at Tecumseh.

The marriage of Arthur C. Sullivan and Miss S. K. Gregg, of Alexandria, Mo., was celebrated at the home of the bride in that city, Oct. 8, 1872. Mrs. Sullivan was born in Brownville, Pa., Feb. 5, 1849, and is the daughter of John and Hannah (Lanning) Gregg, who were natives of Pennsyl-

vania. Mr. Gregg was a miller by occupation, and proprietor of the Valley Mill, at Brownville, Pa. He died at his home in Brownville, about 1850. Mrs. Sullivan when a young girl of fourteen years, accompanied her mother to Missouri, and lived at Alexandria until her marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. Sullivan there have been born five children, of whom only three are living, namely: Herbert R., Garnet and Mabel L., who are at home with their parents, receiving careful parental training and fine educational advantages.



ANDREW COOK, a retired merchant and prominent resident of Tecumseh, first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in May of 1858, locating in Otoe County, where he had become possessor of a tract of land. He began life on the other side of the Atlantic, in Tamworth, Warwickshire, England, Nov. 9, 1822, and received a good education in the schools of his native county. Upon leaving school he was employed at merchandising, and before reaching his twentieth year was united in marriage with Miss Hannah Clulow, Aug. 16, 1842. He still preserves the certificate of his marriage, which was issued forty-six years ago.

Our subject with his young wife crossed the Atlantic in the summer of 1845, and they making their way directly westward located in Racine County, Wis., during the territorial days. There Mr. Cook engaged in farming, and resided for a period of thirteen years. In 1858 he sold out and purchased land in Otoe County, this State, where he resided with his family until the spring of 1864, during which time Nebraska City slowly developed from a hamlet into a good-sized town.

The next removal of Mr. Cook found him on the land which he now owns in Helena Precinct, this county. He has been prosperous in his labors as a tiller of the soil, and invested his spare capital in the erection of buildings and effecting the other improvements which were necessary for his comfort and convenience. In 1866 he put up a \$2,000 house, which was for a number of years the best

dwelling in Johnson County. The lumber for this was transported from Nebraska City by teams, and cost \$100 per 1,000 feet, dressed. In its rough state the price was \$60. Shingles were \$10 per 1,000, and other building material in proportion.

It is hardly necessary to state that during the first years of his residence here Mr. Cook was industriously employed in the labors incident to perfecting his homestead. Notwithstanding this he found time to interest himself in the welfare of the people around him, and in the fall of 1866 was elected County Commissioner, the duties of which he thereafter discharged for two terms of three years each. Johnson County at this time was comparatively thinly settled, there being fewer people here in 1860 than in 1858, some having become discouraged and moved away, and some having gone to the war. After the conflict had ended the population increased by the return of soldiers, many of whom made permanent settlement.

In the latter part of 1872 Mr. Cook embarked in general merchandising, although principally handling farm implements and road vehicles. Of these he carried a large stock, and did the most extensive business in the county for many years. He was thus occupied until the spring of 1886, when, having secured a competence he retired from active business, turning over his large landed interests to his sons. He has always taken a lively interest in politics, and was quite prominent in the Republican party in this county for a number of years. He has served as Mayor of Tecumseh, and occupied other positions of trust and responsibility in Helena Precinct. A Free Soiler in early manhood, upon the abandonment of the old party he cordially endorsed Republican principles, and to this has given his uniform support for a period of thirty years. For forty years he has been connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, laboring earnestly for its best interests, and usually holding some office in connection therewith. In the Sunday-school he has maintained a warm and active interest for a period of fifty years, officiating a long period as Superintendent, and when not holding this office working outside quietly, to the best of his ability.

Mr. Cook during the summer of 1882, thirty-eight years after leaving his native land, recrossed

the Atlantic and spent four months among the old friends who were yet living, and who welcomed him with open arms. During the summer of 1886 he repeated this visit, and felt that the time and money involved were well spent. His early home was at Tamworth, the great center of Robert Peel's cotton factories, in which the father of our subject was collector of duties, and filled other responsible positions for many years. This office had been in the family for generations.

William and Lucy Cook, the parents of our subject, were of English birth and ancestry, the father born about 1790, and the mother in June, 1790. William Cook was for a period of thirty-three years in the employ of the Government, during that time never losing a day's pay. His death took place in 1844, when he was fifty-four years of age. The mother survived her husband many years, attaining the ripe old age of eighty. The family of the subject of this sketch included seven children, all of whom are living: Elizabeth and William, born in England; and Charles C., Edward, Andrew, James and Lucy in America. Mrs. Cook, the wife of our subject, died in July, 1878. She was a most lovely Christian lady, one whose "kingdom was her home." She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an active Christian, and her name is held in tender remembrance by her children and all who knew her.

Miss Elizabeth Cook, the eldest daughter of our subject, became the wife of D. McCuaig, who is at present Postmaster of Nebraska City. They have eight children, namely: Duncan, Andrew, Hannah, Maggie, Birdie, Florence, Mary and Ruth. William Cook, a brother, married Miss Jane Wakeman, and is numbered among the successful farmers of the town of Cook, Helena Precinct, this county. He is the father of four children, namely: Frank, Mamie, Anna and Alice. Charles C. married Miss Emma Cady, and is the father of three children: Walter, Harry and Myrtle, and lives near Tecumseh. Edward is a resident of Spring Creek, and is the father of five children: Minnie, Nellie, Jessie, Ethel and Georgia. Andrew married Miss Sarah Wakeman, and they are the parents of three children. James married Miss Rilla Taliaferro, and they have three children: Nellie, Lou and Belle. Lucy is the

wife of S. H. Fullerton, a well-to-do business man of Atchison, Kan., and the mother of two children, Robert and Ruby. It will thus be seen that Mr. Cook is the possessor of twenty-seven grandchildren.



WILLIAM R. GORE, Clerk of the District Court of Johnson County, and a prominent resident of Tecumseh, represents a fine property in this locality, having a valuable and attractive home at the southeast corner of Fourth and Sheridan streets, besides a quarter-section of land in Lincoln Precinct. This latter he secured when it was an unimproved tract, and has reduced it to a good state of cultivation, placing thereon the necessary buildings and live stock. He is a gentleman standing well among his fellow-citizens, and one considered worthy of the responsibilities which have been placed upon him.

Our subject is the offspring of a good Maryland family, his father, Edwin Gore, having been born in Queen Anne County, that State, in 1816. The latter acquired his education in the common schools, and there remained in his native place until twenty-one years of age. Then, turning his face westward, he took up his residence in Mason County, Ill., and soon thereafter entered 130 acres of land from the Government. To this section of country he had come alone and empty-handed, an orphan and without influential friends, his parents having died when he was but a lad. Providence, however, had given him those attributes which insured his success and made him many friends. He was prospered in his endeavor to open up a farm from the wilderness, and in time added to his first purchase until he became one of the prominent land-holders of the county, opening up a fine and extensive farm, where he carried on agriculture and became the owner of a fine property.

The father of our subject was married in Greene County, Ill., about 1844, to Miss Jane Thompson, and they became the parents of nine children, of whom William R., our subject, was the third in order of birth. Mrs. Jane Gore was born in County Antrim, Ireland, July 5, 1820, and emigrated to America with her parents when a little child three

years of age. Becoming homesick they returned to their native land, and in five years thereafter recrossed the Atlantic once more, and this time settled in Greene County, Ill. Here Mrs. Gore lived until her marriage. Her father, Alexander Thompson, was a farmer by occupation, and his wife in her girlhood was Miss Margaretta Stewart. They continued to make their home in Greene County, Ill., where the mother died when about sixty-five years of age. The father survived his wife many years, his death taking place in 1875, after he had reached the advanced age of ninety-five years. Edwin Gore died in 1860. His wife is still living on the old homestead with one of her sons, John W., the fifth child. The parents were prominently connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which they contributed liberally of their means and their labors, and always took a lively interest in the prosperity of the Master's cause.

William Gore, the paternal grandfather of our subject, and in honor of whom the latter was named, was a resident of Maryland for some time previous to his decease. He carried on farming near Queen Anne, and died when our subject was too young to recollect anything of his history. He was the father of two children only.

The subject of this biography, William R. Gore, was born on Field's Prairie, near Havana, Mason Co., Ill., April 9, 1848. He lived there with his father until the death of the latter, in 1877, and until a man twenty-nine years of age. He had received a practical education, and made farming the business of his life. Upon coming to this county, in the spring of 1877, he purchased 160 acres of land in Lincoln Precinct, improved it, set out an orchard of 200 trees, and a grove of forest trees around the dwelling. He erected a substantial farm house, and later all the out-buildings necessary for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain. He availed himself of the improved machinery of the day to cultivate the soil, and before many years found himself in the enjoyment of a fine income. He has now one of the most beautiful homes in this part of Johnson County.

Mr. Gore was elected to the office which he holds in the fall of 1883, and in the spring following assumed the duties thereof, which he has discharged

with great credit. He was re-elected in 1887 by a greatly increased majority, and is now serving his second term. His family consists of a most estimable wife and three bright children, two sons and a daughter—Grace, Roscoe and Harry. Mrs. Martha J. (Hardin) Gore became the wife of our subject Jan. 28, 1877, in Mason County, Ill. She was born there Feb. 10, 1852, and is the daughter of James M. and Martha (Micklam) Hardin, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Virginia. Mr. Hardin left his native State when a young man twenty years old, emigrating in company with Edwin Gore to Mason County, Ill., and settling on a tract of land adjoining that of Mr. G. There he opened up a good farm, where he still lives with his estimable wife. He was born about 1817, and his wife eight years later, in 1825. Both of them became prominently identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church. The twelve children born to them all lived to mature years.

Mr. Gore meddles very little with political affairs, but usually supports the principles of the Republican party. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F., being a member of the lodge at Tecumseh. In social and business circles he is a man highly spoken of, and contributes his full quota in sustaining the moral and financial welfare of his community.

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CHAMBERLAIN BROS., Clarence K. and Charles M., attorneys and counselors-at-law, are also proprietors of the Chamberlain banking house, which is numbered among the solid institutions of Tecumseh. The elder brother came to this place in May, 1885, opened a law office and was joined by the younger in April, 1886. They are talented as lawyers, capable as business men, and have fully established themselves in the esteem and confidence of their fellow-citizens.

The father of these gentlemen, Lorenzo H. Chamberlain, was born Jan. 10, 1819, in Seneca Falls, N. Y. The family is an old and honored one, and the present representatives are descendants in the ninth generation of the family of the same name who came to America during Colonial days and settled in Roxbury, Mass., some time during the

year 1647. We find them mentioned subsequently as among the founders of Dudley and Oxford, Mass., and Woodstock, Conn., about the year 1734. During the progress of the Revolutionary War Capt. Jacob Chamberlain, the great-grandfather of the subjects of this sketch, served, as shown by the Dudley town records, on the Committee of Defense. He also did efficient service during Shay's Rebellion, and died from the results of exposure therein, Jan. 27, 1791.

About the year 1800 representatives of the Chamberlain family, now a large one, removed in large numbers, indeed almost the entire representatives of the name, to Cortland and Seneca Counties, N. Y. Col. Jacob, the grandfather of Clarence and Charles, was then a young man twenty-four years of age, and settled in the vicinity of Seneca Falls, where he subsequently became the owner of large tracts of land. He came honestly by the title of Colonel, which he earned as a valiant soldier in the State Militia during the War of 1812.

Chamberlain Brothers on the maternal side are descended from French Huguenots, who, upon being driven from their native soil, took up their residence in Orange and Columbia Counties, N. Y. Their mother, Mrs. Elizabeth K. Chamberlain, was a native of Columbia County, N. Y., and the parents are now living.

Clarence K. Chamberlain was born Jan. 4, 1857, at Seneca Falls, N. Y., and was given a fine education, being first graduated from Hamilton College, with the degree of B. A., in the class of 1881, and subsequently pursued his law studies at Boston University. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of New York State, and for a short time followed his profession in Waterloo, in that State. He removed thence, in 1885, to Nebraska. He was married, Sept. 6, 1882, to Miss Maria C. Bachelder, of Malden, Mass. They are the parents of two children, a daughter, Mildred, born April 12, 1886, and a son, Jacob Arthur, born Nov. 19, 1888. Mrs. Maria C. Chamberlain is the daughter of Isaac M. Bachelder and was born in Boston, Mass. Her father is a direct descendant of Rev. Stephen Bachelder, the first minister of Salem, Mass., who came from England to this country in 1632. Among his descendants are found many in-

dividuals of national fame, including Daniel Webster, John G. Whittier and Caleb Cushing. Isaac M. was a member of the firm of Palmer, Bachelder & Co., one of the oldest jewelry houses in Boston. Clarence K. and his estimable lady are members of the Episcopal Church of Tecumseh. Mr. C. is Commander of Division No. 6, First Regiment, Uniform Rank K. of P., and a member of Greek Letter Society, "Psi Upsilon."

Charles M. Chamberlain was also born in Seneca Falls, N. Y., Dec. 12, 1862, and with his brother has been admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of his native State. C. K. is a Republican, while C. M. is a Democrat, although carefully abstaining from the responsibilities of office, preferring to give their undivided attention to their rapidly increasing law practice and their banking interests. They are the owners of considerable city property, and interested in Western lands.

WILBURN MORTON, who is well known throughout Spring Creek Precinct and vicinity, is the proprietor of 299 acres of fertile land, 139 of which constitutes the homestead. He came to Nebraska Territory with his family in the spring of 1865, and located first in Nebraska City, Otoe County, moved to McWilliams Precinct, same county, in the spring of 1866, and in 1870 to his present farm, which he secured as a homesteader, and which, it is hardly necessary to say, was in striking contrast to its present condition. Twenty acres had been broken and some discouraged settler had constructed a dug-out, and this constituted the only improvement. More than twenty years of persevering industry have left their mark upon the land, and the dug-out was long since replaced by a set of substantial farm buildings, which, with their surroundings, comprise one of the most comfortable homes in the northeastern part of the county.

Mr. Morton commenced business for himself in Illinois ten years prior to coming here, with a horse worth about \$60 and a few imperfect farm implements. He had very little money, and was dependent entirely upon his own resources, not having been

the heir to any inheritance except the qualities of honesty and industry which descended to him from his ancestors. He is a native of Hawkins County, Tenn., and was born June 4, 1830. His parents, William and Celia (George) Morton, were natives respectively of North Carolina and Tennessee, and his paternal grandfather, John Morton, did good service as a soldier in the War of 1812. The latter had two brothers in the Revolutionary War.

The parents of our subject were married in Tennessee, whence they migrated about 1830 to Pike County, Ill., when their son Wilburn was but an infant of six months. They settled among the pioneers of that region, where the father battled successfully with the elements of the primitive soil and where both parents spent the remainder of their days. The mother died in middle life, in the winter of 1853. The father survived his wife a period of thirty years, his death taking place in the year 1883, in Pike County, Ill.

William Morton was a man prominent in his community, possessed of great perseverance and energy, and was no unimportant factor in the development of Pike County. He held the office of Constable a number of years, besides filling other positions of trust, and was ever ready to contribute to those projects having for their object the welfare of the people around him. The parental household included nine children, of whom the following survive, namely: Eliza, the widow of Mr. Lery, of Pike County, Ill.; Jackson, also living in that county; Wilburn, our subject; Jeremiah, of Nemaha County, this State; and Sally, Mrs. John Cox, of Seward County.

Our subject was reared to manhood in the Prairie State, assisted in the development of the homestead and secured a somewhat limited education in the pioneer schools. After the death of his mother he assisted in the support of the family, remaining with his father until his marriage. This important event in his life occurred April 26, 1856, the maiden of his choice being Miss Susanna Brown, and the wedding taking place in Pike County, Ill. Mrs. Morton was born in Brown County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Samuel and Diantha (Granger) Brown, who were natives of Ohio, and are now residents of Seward County, this State. Their

family consisted of ten children, all residents of Nebraska except one, who lives in Cheyenne County, Kan.

Our subject and his wife remained residents of Illinois until the spring of 1865, when Mr. Morton, disposing of his interests in the Prairie State, set his face toward the farther West, coming to Nebraska. His subsequent movements we have already indicated. His family circle was completed by the birth of eleven children, nine of whom are living, namely: William S., a resident of Gage County, this State; Charles, in this county; Martha, the wife of Frank Marrs, of Gage County; Elizabeth, Mrs. John Matthews, of this county; Adelia, Dora, Edward, James and Andrew. The two deceased are Mary L. and Helen, who died in childhood.

Mr. Morton labored early and late for many years in order to gain a foothold upon the soil of Nebraska, and in due time found himself on the high road to prosperity. Not only has he contributed toward the development of Johnson County in the improvement of one of its finest farms, but has been a man liberal and public-spirited, encouraging the establishment and maintenance of schools and churches and contributing of his means to this end. He and his estimable wife are in their prime and well preserved as the result of temperate habits and correct lives, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of hosts of friends. Mrs. Morton is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. M., politically, is a Union Labor man. He was cradled under the wings of the Republican party, with which he labored and voted for many years. In connection with farming he makes a specialty of stock-raising, keeping good grades of cattle, horses and swine. He is amply supplied with the modern farm machinery, and in his home and surroundings is fulfilled the modern ideal of the complete rural estate where peace and plenty abide.

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ENOS L. LESTER has been identified with the State since the year 1870, and has borne his full share of those discomforts, difficulties and hardships incidental to the age of the pioneer in every new district or section of country. He is

working eighty acres of land upon section 5, Todd Creek Precinct, and has also a farm of 120 acres in Nuckolls County, situated within a mile of the city of Claramont.

When our subject first came to the State he settled about seven miles northeast of Tecumseh, in Spring Creek Precinct. He remained there for about two years, and then located as at present. He has been very enterprising in the operating of his farm and its redemption from its original primitive condition of raw prairie. His fields are well cultivated, fertile, and usually return him a fruitful harvest. The same is true of his orchards. He is not largely devoted to stock farming, but raises a number of hogs, sheep, cattle and horses, and has seen a continuous prosperity therein. In 1883 he saw his way clear to the erection of a new farm dwelling, and put up a good, commodious frame house, in which were not lacking many of the modern devices for convenience and comfort. About the same time a new barn was necessary, and speedily it also arose from its foundation; it is very commodious and quite an ornament to the property. Our subject is feeding three carloads of fine cattle.

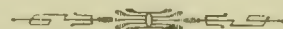
Mr. Lester was born near Lansing, Mich., on the 4th of March, 1852, and was about seven years of age when his parents removed to Hancock County, Ill. In the schools of that county he received a good practical education, and then gave his attention to farming, from which time until the present he has chiefly been engaged therein, so that he is well informed upon all points connected with his chosen occupation, and is eminently practical.

On the 4th of October, 1879, there was celebrated the marriage of our subject with Miss Victoria Platt, of Spring Creek. She was born in Indiana, on the 24th of August, 1852, coming to this State with her parents, with whom she remained until her marriage, when they migrated hither in 1872. There have come to brighten and bless the home of our subject two children, who bear the names Ada and Hershel.

In politics our subject is a Democrat, and active where the interests of his party are concerned. He is also a member of the social order of Masonry, and attends the local lodge of the fraternity. He

is a man popular and respected in the community, and as a business man is considered of staunchest integrity.

The father of our subject, Thomas Lester, was born in New York, in the year 1811, and was by occupation an agriculturist. He was united in wedlock with Miss Harriet Kaywood, a native of the same State, who presented him with seven children, of whom four are still living. The family emigrated successively from the home State to Michigan, thence to Illinois, and finally to Nebraska, where he is now living at Sterling, in this county. For many years he has been a preacher in the Methodist Episcopal Church, but is now living retired from active service, and has united with the Presbyterian Church, where he is accompanied by his wife, who is also a member of the same communion.



AUGUST KRAUSE. The German element, maintaining its characteristic enterprise and spirit of sturdy adventure, was not long in penetrating the Territory of Nebraska as soon as it was fairly opened for settlement. Among its notable pioneers is the subject of this sketch, who first arrived in this county in the spring of 1866, before Nebraska had been admitted into the Union as a State. The month was May, and he had journeyed in a covered wagon from Wisconsin, accompanied by his parents, Michel and Christina (Humboldt) Krause. They first sought the home of William Krause, a brother, in Gage County, where our subject tarried until February, 1868, the parents in the meantime staying in Johnson County.

Mr. Krause made this memorable journey when a youth of nineteen years, but previous to that he had made a far longer one when a lad of ten, having crossed the Atlantic Ocean from Germany, where his birth took place March 1, 1847. On this voyage he was also accompanied by his parents, and they made their way to Wisconsin, where they lived until coming to Nebraska.

The first land secured by our subject was a tract of eighty acres, which he purchased in the spring of 1867. The father homesteaded eighty acres adjoining, and upon neither had there been the slight-

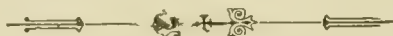
est attempt at improvement. The latter, like his son, proceeded with the cultivation of the soil, and lived to be quite aged, his death occurring June 10, 1880, after he had spanned seventy-five long years. The mother is still living, and has now attained the age of seventy-eight. She, with her husband, identified herself with the Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago, and in the doctrines of this denomination their children were carefully trained. The latter consisted of two sons, who are now in Nebraska.

When Mr. Krause and his father came to this county they had between them about \$100. They had paid \$250 for their land. With the remaining cash in hand they purchased a cook stove, a cow and some provisions, and began tilling the soil with a yoke of steers, which they secured on time. They operated in this manner for a period of three years, and then, going over into Richardson County, traded the steers for a span of horses, giving \$100 to boot. The first dwelling of the family was a log cabin, which our subject put up in 1867, and which he occupied with the family until the erection of the present residence, which is a substantial frame structure of six rooms, and which was completed in the fall of 1883. The log house was situated in the timber down on the creek. The farm buildings which Mr. Krause now has are finely located, and in every way admirably adapted to the convenience and comfort of the proprietor. Forty acres of timber add to the value of the estate, and the land which is not devoted to the growing of grain exhibits a fine stretch of pasture.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Hannah Billing, of Pawnee County, this State, was celebrated at the home of the bride, near the town of Pawnee City, on the 20th of July, 1875. This lady is the daughter of Leonard and Agnes (Bodendorfer) Billing, who were natives of Germany. The mother passed away some years before the marriage of her daughter Hannah, but the father is still living and a resident of Pawnee. Of this union there have been born five children, viz: Joseph, Sophia, Ida, Leonard and Matilda. They are all living, and form an interesting group, of which the parents may justly be proud.

Mr. Krause is a very intelligent man and pos-

sesses considerable literary ability, being the correspondent of several papers as a reporter of country news. He lays no claim to being a politician, but entertains the interest which is felt by every intelligent man in the prosperity of his county and State, and usually votes the Republican ticket. He has served on the School Board of his precinct for a period of twelve years, officiated as Moderator nine years, and as Director three years. In the spring of 1871 he was elected Assessor of Sterling Precinct, and discharged its duties, as has been his habit in all the relations of life, in a praiseworthy and conscientious manner.



JASON L. PHILLIPS, widely and favorably known as the proprietor of the feed mill and store at the corner of Clay and Eighth streets, was born in 1831, in Oswego County, N. Y. He remained with his parents until twenty years of age, which time had been filled with the usual employments of boyhood and youth. Upon leaving his native State he went to Lake County, Ill., and purchased a farm. For the subsequent three years he made his home thereon, and was very successful. Selling that property, he went to Jackson County, Iowa, and later to Linn County. There he had a farm, but devoted more attention to threshing than was usual. He lived to see considerable improvement upon the threshing-machines used when he first began, and was always deeply interested in them. He has himself invented quite a number of different improvements, and has made at least eleven different "separators." He holds a patent upon seven different points, which are much valued, and used upon almost every machine constructed at present.

Although he does not go out himself, our subject still continues to run quite a large business in threshing. The most he does is occasionally, when circumstances press, to oversee the work until such pressure is removed. In 1867 Mr. Phillips sold his property in Linn County, Iowa, and came to Tecumseh. He purchased land in Nemaha Precinct, and improved the same, living upon it in all about nine years. At the end of that period he

Horace Phillips, the father of our subject, was born in Vermont, but migrated to the Empire State when about twenty-five years of age. He followed agriculture as the chosen occupation of his life. He was the owner of a good and extensive farm in Oswego County, upon which he continued to live until he attained a good old age, and then removed to his children in Illinois, and still later to Iowa. In that State he died at the age of seventy-seven. The maiden name of his

The Phillips family has for several generations been representative of the best class of American citizenship, and that of our subject in no way detracts from so worthy a history. Throughout the county he is much esteemed, and as a business man enjoys a fine reputation. In society at large both he and his are received and accorded sincerest regard.

Answering a call for men to defend the Stars and Stripes, and maintain the Nation's honor, our subject enlisted in Company B, of the 28th New Jersey Regiment, serving for a term of one year, entering as a private, and by ability and military daring attracting such attention as to be advanced to the

rank of Lieutenant, and afterward made Adjutant of the regiment, a fact which speaks by no means uncertainly as to his character and military efficiency.

In 1870 Judge Appelget came to Tecumseh and opened a law office, and since that time has been engaged in the practice of law. It was a very short time before his list of clients had lengthened to a surprising extent, and his receipts from his practice gave him entire freedom from any financial anxiety. He is entitled to practice in all courts of the United States, and is an eloquent pleader, ready upon all points of argument, and accounted quite an ultimate authority in almost any legal matter that may come under discussion. He was appointed to the bench in May, 1887, and was elected in November, 1887, to fill the full term of four years, beginning in January, 1888.

The lady to whom our subject was united in marriage was Miss Helen Voorhees, of the State of New Jersey. This interesting event was celebrated at Windsor, March 1, 1855. To them have been born two children, both of whom are living. The elder child of Judge Appelget, Anthony M., was associated with his father until he went on the bench, and now takes full charge of the office business. His daughter Mary is at home. The wife of our subject was born in the above State, in September, 1830, and is the daughter of John Voorhees, one of the prominent farmers of that place. She received a good education, and is a lady of culture and much innate refinement.

Judge Appelget now lives near the city of Tecumseh, and is the owner of a very fine residence on Fifth street, just outside the corporation limits. He has about five acres devoted to the lawn, besides the usual gardens and picturesque groves, etc. He is also the owner of several important pieces of city property, and two extensive and well-cultivated farms in the county, possessing good buildings.

Our subject has been the County Attorney for a number of years, but has always preferred to keep out of office. In his own private affairs he had as much as it was possible for him to attend to, and was eminently successful therein. By all who know him he is accounted one of the most valued and prominent citizens of Tecumseh, and enjoys the entire respect of the community at large, and, if

anything, more than respect of his colleagues in his professional circles. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has been so for a long time. During the year 1887 he was Commander of the G. A. R. Post, and served with much efficiency. Although exceedingly well liked in the city, being pleasant in manner, very social and affable, he at all times upholds the dignity which he feels is associated with the tribunal he represents.

Anthony Appelget, the father of our subject, was born in the year 1802, on the old homestead in Middlesex County, N. J., which has been in the possession of the family since the year 1754. There he spent all of his days, occupying the position of a prominent farmer, much respected in the community, holding at different times various offices in the county, a man whose word was considered equal to his bond, a worthy sire of a no less worthy son.

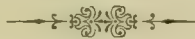
The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Lena Riggs. She presented her husband with six children, and in this family the sexes were evenly represented. Of these two sons and two daughters came to years of maturity. Mrs. Appelget, Sr., died in the year 1835, and some time afterward he married again, and is still living upon the farm.

Thomas Appelget, the grandfather of our subject, was born upon the same farm, and operated it for the greater part of his life, dying upon it in the year 1830. His father's name was Anthony Appelget, a soldier in the Revolutionary War, in which he met his death. He also was ushered into this world at the same homestead. Thomas Appelget, the father of Anthony, and great-great-grandfather of our subject, was a native of England, and was by occupation a blacksmith. He purchased the farm upon coming to this country, in the year 1754, as above mentioned.

Helena (Riggs) Appelget was born in Middlesex County, N. J., living there with her parents until the time of her marriage. She was the daughter of Lewis and Ida Riggs, to whom she was born in the year 1804. Her father was one of the prominent, successful and enterprising farmers of the county.

Anthony M. Appelget, the son of our subject, received an excellent education in the schools of

Tecumseh, and afterward from the State University at Lincoln, Neb., then entering the law department of the Iowa University he was graduated with the class of '78, receiving the degree of LL. B. He was the same year admitted to the bar in Iowa and Nebraska, to practice in all courts. Since that time he has continued in the practice of his profession with his father, assuming entire control of the business on the elevation of that gentleman to the bench. His wife was Miss Mary C. Paine, of this county. Their union was celebrated on the 27th of October, 1879. There have been five children born to them, of whom four are living, viz.: Thomas, Henry, Abbie and Clarence. For the past five years Mr. A. M. Appelget has filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned the office of City Attorney.



DANIEL F. OSGOOD is a name known and respected in professional and social circles throughout Johnson County. In Tecumseh, the home of this gentleman, he is held in special regard as one of its most prominent attorneys and able counselors-at-law. He was District Attorney for this district, covering five counties, viz.: Johnson, Pawnee, Gage, Richardson and Nemaha. He was qualified on the 1st of January, 1884, filling his office most acceptably until it was abolished, and the present office of County Attorney created.

The subject of this sketch was born on the 26th of September, 1858, in Wayne County, Pa. He was brought up and educated in his native county, finishing his educational studies at Wyoming Seminary, at Kingston, Pa., after which he taught school for a time. He came to this State in August, 1879, and continued to follow the same profession of teaching until admitted to the bar in 1881, after having read carefully in various offices, among others those of Judge Davidson and B. F. Perkins of this city. Being admitted to the bar, he opened an office in Tecumseh, from which time his practice has been continually growing. His bright, clear intellect, strong memory, ready wit and no less ready speech, have greatly assisted in

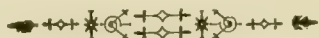
making him a successful pleader in the various courts, and, although comparatively a young man, he has already made a record worthy of imitation.

Mr. Osgood was united in the bands of holy matrimony with Miss Mary B. Krum on the 3d of February, 1885. This lady is the daughter of Rev. Dr. J. D. Krum, of this city, and was born in New York State, on the 23d of August, 1863. She was quite a child when her parents removed to Seneca County, N. Y., where they continued to live until May of 1879, when they removed to Lewisburg, Pa. There they made their home until 1885, and then came to this city, where Miss Krum was united in marriage to our subject. They are the parents of one beautiful daughter, to whom they have given the name Mary Ellen. Rev. J. D. Krum was born in New York, and was graduated from Rutgers' College and Theological Seminary, where he prepared himself to follow his chosen profession. He was a Presbyterian, and the changes of location above recorded were such as were incidental to removal to and from the various churches he has served in the pastorate. At present he is not engaged in active ministerial work. His wife, mother of Mrs. Osgood, was before her marriage Miss Ellen M. Blair, of Angelica, N. Y. This event was celebrated on the 26th of June, 1861, since which time two children have been born to them, who still survive.

The father of our subject, John S. Osgood, was born in Wayne County, Pa. He continued to follow throughout the greater part of his life the calling he had selected, viz., husbandry, and for the most part had done so in his native county, where he was held in much regard. He has been called upon at various times to hold different township offices, always doing so in a way most creditable and satisfactory. He, however, prefers to be allowed to attend to his own business, having no ambition to occupy official positions. His wife was Elizabeth Fairchild, of Luzerne County, Pa. They are the parents of three children, who are still living. He has to-day a large dairy farm in Sterling Township, of Wayne County, Pa., and with his wife enjoys much of the brightness of life. They are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, active, consistent and devout. He has

cheerfully and ably served the church in different offices when called upon. He is a man looked up to and respected by the entire community, admiring as they do his high character and consistent Christian walk and conversation.

Daniel Osgood has before him a very bright prospect. "As the sun rises in the East" in the morning hours of the day, bathing the earth in glowing brilliancy and light, so has the sun risen on the professional life of our subject, throwing its rays far into the future, making it radiant with its promise. As a man and lawyer he is very highly esteemed by his fellows, and enjoys the confidence of quite a large clientage. He is an active worker in the various fraternities of the city, being a member of the Knights of Pythias, the I. O. O. F. and Encampment, of which he is a Past Grand and Past Chief Patriarch; also Junior and Senior Warden of the Masonic Lodge, and also being a member of the Chapter and Council.



JAMES HILL, proprietor of the Tecumseh Elevator, so widely known throughout this section of the country as a most worthy representative of the grain interest, is the son of George Hill, who was born in England in 1790, and when about forty years of age came to America. While still in his native country this gentleman was married to Miss Isabel Allen, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland. They were the parents of eight children, some of whom were born on the other side of the Atlantic. They were only privileged to bring five of their children to years of maturity. Coming to this country in 1844, he settled with his family in Cass County, Ill., and was among the earliest settlers there. He took up a new farm, improved and operated it, seeing no little success attending his labors. There he made his home until his death in 1868, having survived his wife about six years.

The place of the nativity of James Hill was Edinburgh, Scotland, and the date of that interesting event the 7th of March, 1834. At the time of the settlement in Cass County he was ten years of age. He has a vivid recollection of the early work upon

the farm, when he was set to help grub out the land, and as far as he was able, help prepare it for the plow. He received a good common-school education, and did not leave the parental roof-tree until after he had attained his majority. Then he went into the milling business at Virginia, Ill. On the 20th of November, 1861, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary Needham, of Jacksonville, Ill., who has presented him with seven children. Of these three sons and three daughters are living.

After spending about seven years in the town of Virginia, Mr. Hill sold out, and in 1871 came to this State. He took up a farm about ten miles northeast of Tecumseh, and continued to work the same for perhaps four years. In 1876 he sold his property and came into the town and built the Centennial Mill, and ran it for about five years. Until that time it had been a stone mill, then he made it a roller mill, after which it became known as the Tecumseh Roller Mill. Not long afterward, in partnership with his son, he went into business as a merchant on the corner of Clay and Fourth streets, and later into the coal business. In the spring of 1886 the mill burned, and upon its site Mr. Hill erected a new elevator, which business he attends to himself, leaving his son to carry on that at the store, which was established after the burning of the mill. The coalyard he has also retained under his supervision.

Miss Mary Needham was born on the 10th of March, 1842, at Jacksonville, Ill., and there lived until she was fourteen years of age, when with her father, Joseph Needham, she went to Cass County, Ill., near Virginia, and there remained until her marriage. Her father was a native of England; he came to Illinois when he was about fifty years of age. In his native country he had been an agriculturist, and upon settling in Cass County took up a farm, which he is still operating with a large measure of success. His wife, however, was removed from him by death in the year 1876.

George Hill, the eldest son of our subject, was born on Nov. 4, 1862. He was married to Ida Asbley, of Peru, Nebraska, and they are now the parents of three children—Ethel, Clarence and Edna. It is the son who is the member of the firm of James Hill & Son, and has charge of the store, as men-

tioned above. The next son, James, Jr., assists his father at the elevator; John is attending school; the other members of the family are Matchel (known as Mittie), Isabel and Mary. All of them have been given a thorough education, and appreciate the power it has placed in their hands. As a family they are most happy and united, and their home is one of the pleasantest in the community.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill are much esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in society they are at all times received with a cordiality that is born of a sincere regard.



ANDREW SALZMAN, one of the honored pioneers of Lincoln Precinct, may be found usually at his pleasant homestead on section 35, where he has resided since the spring of 1868. A native of Butler County, Ohio, he was born Sept. 6, 1829, and is the son of Michael and Lena (Eiman) Salzman, the father a native of the Province of Lorraine, born while it belonged to France, and the mother a native of Prussia.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America shortly before the birth of the latter, settling in Butler County, Ohio, among its earliest pioneers, where they lived and labored until called hence. The father departed this life about 1861, and the mother in 1870. Andrew was the fifth of a family of seven children, five of whom are living, and residents of Ohio, Illinois and Nebraska.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native State, and enjoyed the advantages of the pioneer schools, from which he was enabled to obtain, however, only a limited education. He has been quite an extensive reader all his life, and has thus kept himself well posted in regard to matters of interest to the intelligent citizen. Upon leaving his native State in the fall of 1856, he made his way to Woodford County, Ill., and was there at the outbreak of the Rebellion. Soon after the first call for troops, he enlisted, Aug. 20, 1861, in Company K, 129th Illinois Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles of the war, being present at Resaca, and thereafter through the entire campaign, including the siege of Atlanta, also going with Sher-

man on his famous march to the sea. After the capture of Savannah he fought in the battle of Averasboro, N. C., where he received a gunshot wound, March 16, 1865, through the right thigh, and was confined in the hospital until the 16th of June following, when he was given his honorable discharge. He now draws a pension of \$8 per month from the Government. He acquitted himself as a brave and faithful soldier, receiving the approval of his superior officers and the respect of his comrades.

After the war Mr. Salzman returned to Illinois, and settled in Livingston County, where he resided until the spring of 1868. He then came to Nebraska with his wife and family, having been married in Woodford County, Ill., March 22, 1859, to Miss Mary E. Pogue. Mrs. Salzman was born in West Virginia, and reared in Illinois, and is the daughter of Londa J. and Rebecca (Kirby) Pogue, who were natives of Pennsylvania and New York, and are now deceased. Their family consisted of ten children, and the survivors are residents of Illinois, Indiana and Nebraska.

To our subject and his estimable wife there has been born one child only, a daughter, Nellie, who is now the wife of Albert Russell, and who, with her husband, resides at the homestead with her parents.

Mr. Salzman upon coming to this county at once homesteaded 160 acres of land in Lincoln Precinct, and began at once its improvement, putting up the necessary buildings and bringing the soil to a state of cultivation. He has been greatly prospered in his labors, and wisely invested his surplus capital in additional land, being now the owner of 480 acres, all of which is in a good state of cultivation. He came to this county with very little capital, and has accumulated his possessions by hard labor and the exercise of the strictest economy. In common with the early settlers of Johnson County, he with his estimable wife endured hardships and privations, and they were obliged to calculate in the closest manner for a number of years in order to make both ends meet. They have emerged from the battle with flying colors, and are now sitting under their own vine and figtree in independent circumstances, with the certainty of a competence in their declining years. Both united with the

Presbyterian Church some years ago, and are numbered among its most active contributing members. Mr. Salzman, politically, is a solid Republican, and although never ambitious for office, has served on the School Board of his precinct a number of years, and also discharged two terms the duties of Justice of the Peace. Liberal and public-spirited, he is among the first to encourage the enterprises calculated for the advancement of his adopted county, and is numbered among her most disinterested citizens, having in mind the best interests of her people.

WILLIAM GRIMES. This gentleman is now serving his second term of office as Sheriff of Johnson County, being first elected on the Republican ticket in 1885, and re-elected two years subsequently. He is one of the most able and active officers in the State, and has been unanimously chosen Secretary of the Sheriff's Association of Nebraska, which held its annual meeting at Omaha on the 11th of August, 1888. He is deeply interested in all that pertains thereto, and is much esteemed among his colleagues as he is in society at large. He is the owner of considerable real estate and residence property in Sterling, and some land in Kansas, in addition to his well-established business, which is that of dealer in farming implements and groceries.

Perry County, Ohio, is the native place of our subject, where he was born on the 6th of November, 1857. In the usual institution he received his education, filling the days of childhood and youth after the manner of his school companions. As he is a thorough man, he was then a thorough boy, and although frequently both teachers and parents realized that this was true, perhaps to an undesirable degree, they might well be proud of him from the time he was old enough to put away childish things. After school days were over he continued upon his father's farm until he was twenty years of age, and then he decided to push out into the world for himself.

Upon leaving home Mr. Grimes went to Hastings, Neb., and was engaged upon the *Hastings Gazette*, now the *Gazette Journal*. He took the place of a

compositor, and was thus engaged for two years. Then he went to Ohio, and while there married Mary Cleaver, the amiable daughter of William and Martha Cleaver, of Harveysburg, Ohio. Their nuptials were celebrated on Christmas Day of the year 1878. There have been born to them three children, two of whom are still living, whose names are recorded as Flo and Thayer. Not long after their marriage the young couple removed to Clay County, this State, where they made their home for about eleven months, then came to Johnson County. They settled in the city of Sterling, where they have since continuously resided.

Upon making their home in Sterling our subject engaged in the grocery business, to which he added the agricultural implement department, and saw much financial prosperity therein until 1885. His business was quite large and constantly growing, but in 1885, being elected Sheriff and filling the office, he was compelled to make other arrangements. He gave his best attention to the various duties of his office, and sought to be thoroughly efficient therein. That he was successful in pleasing those who sent him there is evidenced by his reelection in 1887, with a very largely increased majority over that which had been given him at previous elections. Although at the time of his election he was the youngest Sheriff in the State he has since proved himself to be by no means the least able. As an officer he is popular, and yet at the same time is perfectly honorable in every detail of his office. In the fraternities he is quite well and favorably known, being a member of the Masonic, I. O. O. F. and Sons of Veteran societies, and holding the position of Adjutant General of the Nebraska division of the latter.

Mrs. Mary (Cleaver) Grimes was born in the Buckeye State, at Harveysburg, in Warren County, on the 3d of March, 1857, and is the daughter of William and Martha (Reason) Cleaver. Until her marriage she continued at home with her parents. Her father is one of the respected and much valued citizens of Warren County, Ohio, and has frequently been called upon by his fellow-citizens to the acceptance of some public trust. He is still living, in the enjoyment of comparatively good health considering his advanced age. His

wife, however, died when Mrs. Grimes was but six days old. About eight years later he remarried, the name of his wife being Mary Sears.

The father of our subject, George W. Grimes, was born in Perry County, Ohio, on the 19th of October, 1824, and lived in that county, following the occupation of farming, until 1881, when he migrated to Sterling. Since then he has lived a retired life, enjoying the fruits of his previous years of toil. He has throughout his life been a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has sustained a deep interest in religious matters. He has been enthusiastic as a Mason and as a member of the G. A. R. He enlisted in 1862, and served for one year and a half, seeing considerable service, taking part in many of the larger and more important battles during that period, and was finally discharged, owing to disability for further service. The maiden name of his wife was Sarah A. Smoot, born in Virginia. They became the parents of four sons and two daughters; one of the latter died shortly after reaching her fourth birthday; Mary V. Mason, *nee* Grimes, died in May, 1881; the remainder are still living. Mrs. Sarah (Smoot) Grimes was born near the Blue Ridge, Va., in 1829, and when quite a young lady went to Ohio to fill an engagement as school teacher, in which she continued employed until her marriage. Her father, Lofton Smoot, was a blacksmith by trade, and he also after a time migrated to the same State. Her parents afterward went still further west to Illinois, where they made their home until their death.

The State of Virginia is that wherein John Grimes, the grandfather of our subject, was born. He was one of the early pioneers, and went some 700 or 800 miles into the woods of Ohio, and there cleared a farm for himself and family, and at the time of his death was operating about 2,000 acres of good Ohio land, in addition to which each of his twelve children had 160 acres of land, which he had prepared for them and given them. He was quite a prominent citizen in the district where he settled, and had quite a reputation in connection with the gallant manner in which he had handled his men while holding the commission of a Captain in the War of 1812. The sword used by him at

that time is in the possession of the subject of our sketch. He died in 1876, having passed his ninetieth birthday. The great-grandfather of our subject was born in Ireland. When a young man he came to Virginia, where he became the owner of a fine plantation, continuing there until his death. This became the homestead of the family, to which reference has been made above. Our subject, remembering the history of his family in the past, and the honorable positions they have always occupied, has brought no blot upon the family escutcheon.

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MRS. ELIZABETH SAMPSON, for many years a much esteemed member of the community of Lincoln Precinct, this county, and residing on section 13, township 5 north, range 11 east, is a native of Carroll County, Ohio, and was born on the 31st of May, 1835. Her parents, John and Susan (Castleman) Cook, were natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Her father is deceased, her mother is living now in Oxford, Iowa. Until she was sixteen years of age she lived with her parents in her native State, attended school there, and passed successfully through the various classes of the usual institutions of learning. Then, in the fall of 1851, she went with her parents to Johnson County, Iowa, where they were among the early pioneer settlers. It was here that her father died in the year 1873. Of a large family of children born to Mr. and Mrs. Cook, the subjoined alone survive: Barbara was married to Samuel Chrisinger, deceased, of Ft. Dodge, Iowa; Rebecca, who became the wife of the late Elias Lewis, of Carroll County, Ohio; Henry resides in Millersburg, Iowa; Elizabeth; Michael, of Oxford, and Susan, who was married to J. W. Renley, of Lansing, Colo.

Our subject was married at Oxford, Iowa, on the 21st of February, 1858, to Mr. Ezekiel Sampson, a native of Erie County, Ohio, where he was born on the 21st of June, 1835. He was a son of Ezekiel and Margaret Sampson, who were respectively natives of New York State and Kentucky. His father died when he was but two years of age, and he was brought up by his mother, and remained with and

assisted her in the care of their farm, from the time he was able to do so until his marriage, from which time he provided for her in his own family until her death, on the 17th of February, 1872.

Owing to the circumstances above mentioned, Mr. Sampson received but a limited education, and that in the pioneer schools of Ohio. When he was seventeen years of age, with his mother and the other members of the family, he removed to Iowa County, Iowa, which became their home for a number of years, and it was during that time that the acquaintanceship which finally resulted in his marriage was formed and consummated. To Mr. and Mrs. Sampson were born eight children, of whom the following survive: Susan, the wife of LaFayette A. Sharett, of Lincoln Precinct; Clinton E., George W., Elmer, Eugene and Minnie, all of whom are at home. The two deceased children were named John and Anna B.

Mr. Sampson served for forty-two months in the late war under the stars and stripes. He was at the siege and battle of Vicksburg, and through the Red River campaign. He was with Sheridan when that illustrious General drove the Confederate forces out of the Shenandoah Valley. He was a true and brave soldier, and did good service for his country. The result, however, to him, from the hardships and privations endured, was to break down his constitution, which was never the same after his service as it had previously been.

Accompanied by his family, Mr. Sampson in the year 1866 removed to this county, and took up a homestead claim of 160 acres in the northern part of Vesta Precinct, and continued farming there for about nine years, after which he settled on the farm that is now managed by the subject of this sketch. They were among the first settlers in that district, and at that time found all the usual hardships and difficulties incident to pioneer life. He was a self-made man in every sense of the word, and was such a one that he enjoyed the confidence and true regard of all acquainted with him. He was a man of sterling integrity and deep piety, a member and supporter of the Baptist Church, and an advocate of all such institutions and organizations as would benefit the community. He was a true friend and a most exemplary citizen, faithful to a degree, and

affectionate as a husband and father. He was sincerely mourned when he departed this life on the 17th of March, 1879. In his relation to the political welfare of the State, Mr. Sampson was a Republican. For many years he was a member of the Masonic fraternity, and was interred by his brethren according to the rites of the order. His widow, the subject of this sketch, is an active member of society, greatly respected by all, true to every relation of life. She is a devout member of the Baptist Church, and spends her life in the endeavor to bring by uniform unselfish kindness, brightness and happiness into the lives of others.



ORLO PAINE. This well and favorably known citizen of Helena Precinct, resident on section 33, township 6 north, range 11 east, is a descendant of a good Connecticut family that has been identified with that section of the country for several generations. The paternal grandfather settled in Connecticut in the latter half of the last century. At the time of the War for Independence his family was represented in the ranks of the Colonists, who were the founders of the Republic. The maternal grandfather also served in that war, holding the position of Drum Major.

Our subject was born in Litchfield County, Conn., on the 12th of January, 1834, and is the son of John and Abigail (Hendricks) Paine. They were the parents of nine children, and the submentioned members of the family still survive: George, who resides in Cayuga County, N. Y., as does also his brother William; James in Litchfield County, Conn.; Edwin in Tecumseh; Hulda, the wife of H. O. Ward, of Litchfield County, Conn.; and Martha, now Mrs. E. C. Ferris, of the same county. Three members of the family are deceased, viz.: John, Sarah and Frances. The father of our subject died on the 7th of March, 1858, and the mother July 3, 1840, and were at the time of their demise aged seventy-one and forty-six years respectively.

In his native State our subject made his home until he attained to manhood. As a boy he was carefully nurtured, and in the common schools re-

ceived a fair practical education. Upon leaving school he devoted himself to the carpenter and joiner's trade. In the spring of 1856 he left his Eastern home and removed to Illinois, where he engaged at the same trade. On the 20th of February, 1862, at Farm Ridge, LaSalle Co., Ill., he was united in marriage with Julia A. Wiswall, who was born in LaSalle County, on the 11th of November, 1841, to Jason P. and Julia E. (Dimmick) Wiswall. To our subject and wife there have been born three children, viz.: Walter L., on the 10th of August, 1863; Herbert, Dec. 8, 1867; and Stella, Aug. 26, 1875.

The parents of Mrs. Paine were natives of Pennsylvania. Their family circle included eight children, who are mentioned as follows: Adeline, the wife of Jacob Cadwell, of Sonoma County, Cal., where resides also Hannah, the wife of Alfred Symonds; Caroline, now Mrs. McMillan, of Guthrie County, Iowa; Julia, wife of our subject; Edwin, who resides in Ottawa, Ill.; Harriet, who is married to Alexander Cadwell, and resides in Sonoma County, Cal.; Jerusha, wife of James Garrison, residing in Southern California, and Eliza; the latter was the first-born child, and is the only one who has been removed by death, which came to her at Deer Park in infancy.

Leaving their native State in 1833 Mr. and Mrs. Wiswall migrated to LaSalle County, Ill., and made their home among the pioneer settlers of the county. He was born on the 23d of April, 1810, and is of English extraction; Mrs. H. on the 21st of January, 1811. Her parents removed from Wayne County, Pa., to the State of Connecticut when she was three years of age, and she was there brought up. Prior to the death of Mr. Wiswall, which occurred on the 16th of July, 1886, they removed to Sonoma County, Cal., where the widow still resides, surrounded by her relatives and friends. She has reached the advanced age of eighty years, but is still in the enjoyment of fairly good health and strength.

In the spring of 1878 the subject of our sketch left LaSalle County, Ill., and, accompanied by his family, came to this county, making their home as at present, locating upon the farm he had purchased in the year 1870, which at that time cost him at

the rate of \$6.25 per acre. He bought eighty acres, but the success that has attended him has been such that he has now 160 acres, well improved, highly cultivated, and under all ordinary circumstances yielding him a large return. His buildings are good and complete, and his home such as might well be envied him by many apparently better circumstanced. The chief attraction, however, and to our subject the chief beauty, is the wife and family, to whom he is devoted, and who on their part are equally devoted to him, so that it is a true home in the most complete meaning of the word.

When a resident of Ford County, Ill., our subject served as Clerk of Peach Orchard Township for a year, and he is at present the Treasurer of the School Board of Helena Precinct, and has served upon the board for a number of years. Politically, he is a Democrat, and as such is at all times ready to do his best for the party which he believes to be governed by correct principles. The greater part of his life he has followed the trade of a joiner, in connection with his farming, and has been quite well prospered. He is among the well-to-do citizens of the district, and by reason of his high character is most favorably received by all who know him, as is also every member of his family.



PURDY PLATT. The farming community of Helena Precinct is well represented by the subject of this sketch, who resides on section 21, township 6 north, range 11 east, where he owns 360 acres of good farming land. He was born on the 3d of August, 1843, to Peter and Susan (Milliken) Platt, of Dearborn County, Ind. His paternal grandfather, Gilbert Platt, was a native of New York State, and was one of the first to settle in Dearborn County, Ind., where the father of our subject was brought up, and is now residing in Tecumseh, in the declining years of his life. While resident in Indiana that gentleman had served in various county and other offices, rendering good and efficient service.

The subject of our sketch was reared to manhood in his native State, and in the schools thereof

received a good, practical mental training. Subsequently he taught school for seven winters in Indiana, and also two in this State. On the 9th of August, 1862, he enlisted in Company E, 16th Indiana Infantry. This regiment was attached to the 15th Army Corps, and served first in Kentucky. They took part in the battle of Richmond, after which they were sent down the Mississippi River and next fought at Arkansas Post. He was also in the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and later in the battle of Mansfield, La., where he was wounded by a gunshot in the knee, and was in the hospital for some time, and upon leaving that institution received an honorable discharge, in October, 1864. He had entered the army as a private, but was early promoted, and continued to serve as a Corporal.

Leaving the army, our subject returned home to Dearborn County, where, on the 24th of October, 1866, he was united in marriage with Mary Alexander, a native of the same county. She was born on the 31st of January, 1851, and is the daughter of Luther (deceased) and Phyllis (Gill) Alexander. Her father was born in Indiana, her mother in England, but she had come to this State when about three years of age with her parents, who migrated hither. The Alexander family originally looked to Kentucky as its native State. Three children were born to her parents, of whom only Mrs. Platt and her sister Lulu, wife of Alfred Platt, also of Helena Precinct, are living. To Mr. and Mrs. Platt have been born four children: Alma L., March 28, 1873; Owen D., March 18, 1875; Roy C., Nov. 1, 1879, and Ralph R., Oct. 23, 1887.

In the year 1872 our subject and his wife migrated to this county, making their home as at present. At that time fifteen acres of land were broken, but there were no improvements made upon the property of any description whatever. Now it is more like a modern model farm, splendidly cultivated and fully supplied with all things necessary thereto. He has had his full share of difficulties as a pioneer, and has shown himself a thoroughly capable and loyal citizen, as well as a practical and successful farmer. His home is one of the best among the farm dwellings of the county.

The parents of our subject numbered in their family circle eight children, whose names we men-

tion as follows: Purdy, our subject; Sarah, the wife of Clark Wicks, of Nemaha County; Alfred, of Helena Precinct; Daniel, who is residing in Dearborn County, Ind.; Victoria, who is married to Enos Lester, of this county; John, who is in Kansas; Emma, now Mrs. Ora Lester, of this county, and Ennis, also living in this county.

Our subject assisted in the organization of the School District No. 64, and was the first to teach the school there. He is, with his wife, a member of the Universalist Church, and our subject is one of the Trustees of the church; both are active members of local society, and are everywhere highly esteemed. He is serving as Treasurer of his school district, and for a number of years has been on the School Board. In the Tecumseh Post of the G. A. R., of which he is a member, he is very highly esteemed as a brave comrade, patriot, true man and citizen.

FREDERICK KOHN, of Western Precinct, conducts his agricultural operations intelligently on a good farm of 160 acres, occupying eighty acres on section 18, and also eighty on section 19. Of Bohemian nativity, he was born on the other side of the Atlantic, Aug. 13, 1855, and is the son of Joseph and Barbara (Smith) Kohn, who were also of German birth and parentage, and whose family consisted of seven children. The parents spent their entire lives upon their native soil, and passed away some years since. The surviving members of the family are residents of Nebraska and Germany.

Young Kohn received a very good education in his native tongue, and after leaving school employed himself at the cooper trade until a youth of nineteen years. In the spring of 1874, resolving to seek his fortune in the New World, he embarked on a steamer at the port of Bremen, and after a voyage of two weeks landed upon American soil, in the city of New York. After a very brief sojourn there he proceeded westward across the Mississippi, and for three and one-half years thereafter was employed on a farm in Pawnee County, this State. In the meantime, in order to gain a better knowledge of the English language, he at-

tended school winters, working for his board in the evenings, mornings and Saturdays.

Our subject, with true German thrift and prudence, had managed to save something from his earnings, and in the summer of 1878 began to make arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own. One of the most important of these was his marriage, which occurred on the 2d of July, with Miss Josephine Heinovsky. This lady was born Feb. 13, 1858, in Bohemia, and is the daughter of Martin Heinovsky, a native of Bohemia, and who now lives at the home of our subject. Of this union there have been born four children—Emma, Edward, Ambrose and Lorenz.

Mr. and Mrs. Kohn came with their little family to this county in the spring of 1885, settling on the farm which they now own and occupy. Although not elegant, their home is extremely comfortable, the buildings and fences being in good repair, the machinery adapted to modern agriculture, and the live stock in keeping with the general air of thrift and prosperity. Mr. Kohn has been quite prominent in local affairs in the communities where he has lived. While a resident of Pawnee County he served as Justice of the Peace, Road Overseer and Moderator of the School Board. In Western Precinct he is a School Director and Treasurer, and religiously, is a member in good standing of the Catholic Church. He is a man who reads understandingly, and takes an interest in everything calculated to advance the intelligence and prosperity of the people around him. He keeps himself well posted upon current events, and uniformly votes the Democratic ticket.



JAMES WEBB. The name of this gentleman is associated with the early history of this county, to which he came in the fall of 1866 and settled on a tract of uncultivated prairie land, from which he has eliminated one of the most beautiful farms within its limits. Not the least among its attractive features is an imposing frame residence, which would be an ornament to any town, and which was finished in the summer of 1883. This forms only one of the features of a most attractive

home, whose inmates are surrounded by all of the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. The hand of thrift and industry is apparent on all sides about the premises, together with the exercise of refined and cultivated tastes. The proprietor is a man held in high regard by his community, and one whose upright life furnishes a fine example to the rising generation.

The childhood home of our subject was on the other side of the Atlantic, in Bedfordshire, England, where his birth took place under the modest roof of his parents, July 6, 1831. He lived in his native land until the spring of 1850, being then a youth of nineteen years, when, not satisfied with his condition or his prospects, he determined to seek his fortunes on another continent.

Our subject upon reaching America made his way directly to Waukesha County, Wis., where he worked at his trade of carpenter until the summer of 1862. The Civil War being then in progress he enlisted in behalf of the Union, on the 21st of August, in Company F, 28th Wisconsin Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the West, and which began operations in Arkansas. Mr. Webb first saw the smoke of battle at Helena, and subsequently participated, July 4, 1864, in the battle at Helena. Later he was at Little Rock, Mobile and Spanish Fort, besides meeting the enemy in minor engagements and skirmishes, from all of which he came out without a scratch. He, however, endured all the hardships and privations incident to army life, and performed his duty faithfully and bravely, and at the close received his honorable discharge, Aug. 21, 1865, at Brownsville, Tex.

Returning now to his old home in Wisconsin our subject continued to reside there a year, then came to Nebraska. Here he battled with the difficulties of life in a new settlement, but allowed nothing to turn him from his purpose of establishing a homestead west of the Mississippi. His labors in due time met with their legitimate reward. In addition to the thorough cultivation of his land he has set out about seven acres of forest trees, planted an apple orchard and the smaller fruit trees, and gathered around him all the appliances of the ideal, modern homestead. Besides the dwelling there is a large, fine barn and sheds for cattle, besides pens

for swine, of which Mr. Webb makes a specialty, and from the proceeds of which he realizes a handsome income.

While a resident of Wisconsin Mr. Webb was united in marriage with Miss Eliza E. Horne, on the 24th of November, 1855. The five children of this union include four daughters and one son, who are named respectively: Caroline, Della, Ida, Bertha and Walker James. The latter is the eldest born, and is farming in Lincoln Precinct. He married Miss Mary Howorth, of Tecumseh, and they have three children—Ruby, Carrie and Mabel. The eldest daughter, Carrie, married Mr. James Henry, and they are living on a farm in Lincoln Precinct, being the parents of three children—Roy, Nova and Myrl Edith. The other children are at home with their parents. They have all been given good advantages, and will become useful members of their community.

Mrs. Eliza E. (Horne) Webb was born June 22, 1837, upon the present site of the city of Milwaukee, and is supposed to be its first native white child. Her parents, Solomon and Elizabeth (Wood) Horne, were of English birth and ancestry, and crossed the Atlantic in 1835, settling first on land near Utica, N. Y., to which the father could not obtain a clear title on account of various mortgages which it seemed impossible to adjust. On this account he moved to Wisconsin, settling upon the present site of Milwaukee, at a time when the now flourishing city was composed of a solitary log shanty. Then Mr. Horne removed with his family to Pewaukee, in Waukesha County, where he took up land, from which he improved a farm, and there spent the remainder of his days. His death occurred in the year 1878, when he had nearly attained his fourscore and ten years. The wife and mother had passed away five or six years prior to his death. Their children, eight in number, are now in Nebraska and Wisconsin respectively.

George Webb, the father of our subject, was also a native of Bedfordshire, England, and emigrated to America about 1854, joining his son James in Wisconsin. The latter in the meantime had returned to England on a visit, and persuaded his father to accompany him home. The latter was a farmer by occupation, and died about 1877, after

having attained his threescore and ten years. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Elizabeth Rainbow, and the parental family consisted of several children, but three of whom are living. The mother died when her son James was a babe of six months, and he was left principally to the care of strangers, being thrown upon his own resources as soon as old enough to fight his way in the world. He is thus a self-made man in the closest sense of the word, and he has made for himself a record to which his posterity may point with pride.



CHARLES L. KING. The subject of this sketch is numbered among the representative farmers of Todd Creek Precinct, where he has made a good record also as a citizen, and where he is the proprietor of 160 acres of improved land comprising a fine farm on section 12. Of this he took possession when it was but slightly removed from its original uncultivated condition, and he has devoted the best years of his life to its improvement, with results that should satisfy any reasonable man. The farm is enclosed with a beautiful hedge fence, which, around the dwelling especially, is kept closely and evenly trimmed in artistic form, and which adds greatly to the attraction of a home which, with its surroundings, closely approaches the modern idea of the complete rural estate.

Mr. King of late years has been greatly interested in fine stock, and usually keeps a herd of high-grade Short-horn cattle, besides excellent draft horses of the Norman and Clydesdale stock, together with Poland-China swine. His stock operations have been more than ordinarily successful, and from them he enjoys a handsome income. Mr. King first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in the spring of 1878, having come here on a prospecting tour. He made no purchase, however, until the fall of 1880, and then secured possession of the land which he now owns. The improvements which the passing traveler views to-day with an admiring eye are the result of an untiring industry, and a very judicious outlay of capital. Upon what was once the low prairie, with nothing larger than a

blade of grass, now stand among other embellishments, 2,500 beautiful forest trees, planted by the hand of our subject, while he has devoted five acres to an apple orchard of the finest varieties, besides the smaller fruits which supply the family in their season with dainties which can only be grown under proper care and training.

The subject of this sketch was born in Niagara County, N. Y., May 31, 1857, and lived there with his parents until a lad ten years of age, pursuing his studies in the common school. He then removed with his parents to Henry County, Ill., where he completed a practical education, and became fully acquainted with all the details of farm life. His father, Horace King, was born in New York State about 1811, and removed from its eastern portion to Niagara County after his marriage with Miss Desire J. Burton. They became the parents of three children, namely: Edward F., William L., and Charles L., our subject. The mother and sons are all living, the latter carrying on farming successfully in Todd Creek Precinct, this county. The parents continued residents of New York State until 1867, then removed to Henry County, Ill., and from there in the spring of 1881 joined their sons in this county, where the father died in the fall of 1886. The mother is still living on the farm in this precinct. Horace King, although a very intelligent man, was no politician, but kept himself well posted upon affairs of State and National interest and conscientiously voted the Republican ticket. The parents in earlier years identified themselves first with the Methodist Church, and then with the Free Methodists. The family bears the highest reputation in this county, being careful and conscientious in their business transactions, prompt to meet their obligations, and in all respects peaceable and law-abiding citizens.

Miss Mary J. Huntley, of Knox County, Ill., was married to our subject at her home in Walnut Grove Township, Nov. 27, 1879. This union resulted in the birth of one child, a son, Charles H., who is now living at home. The young wife only survived her marriage until 1883.

Mr. King contracted a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Cora B. Huntley, a sister of his first wife, and to them also there has been born one

child, a son, Levi H., who is now four months old. Mrs. Cora (Huntley) King was born in Knox County, Ill., Nov. 10, 1864, and is the daughter of Levi A. and Elizabeth (King) Huntley, the former of whom was born in New York State, and removed thence to Ohio early in life, and from there to Knox County, Ill., where he became prominent and well-to-do, and where, with his excellent wife, he is still living. They are people held in high respect in their community, and members in good standing of the Christian Church. Their family consisted of three daughters, namely: Mary J., Nellie E. and Cora B.

WATERMAN G. VAN NESS. The history of Nebraska has many chapters of frontier life and experience, and they are in every way equal to those of other States, although possibly not so pretentious. One who has had much experience in Nebraska frontier life is the gentleman whose life is here briefly sketched, who has been identified with the State since the year 1871.

Mr. Van Ness was born in Columbia County, N. Y., in the month of June, 1833, and there resided during the first fourteen years of his life, and received the foundation of his education. Then, with his parents he went to DeKalb County, Ill. He is a son of Jesse and Rachel (Biglow) Van Ness, who were natives of New York. After three years of residence in Illinois the family removed to Columbia County, Wis. There the father died in November, 1882, at the age of eighty years. The mother of our subject still survives, and makes her home at that place.

The family of which Mr. Van Ness is a member included four children, he being the second. From his youth he has been more or less upon a farm, intermingling with the varied incidents of such a calling. In 1871 he came to Harlan County, Neb., and there entered a claim of 160 acres. He lived within one mile of Alma, the county seat. Upon the occasion of his first visit to Alma the town was infested by a herd of buffalo, and he had the keen satisfaction of a hunter in seeing two fall under his hand. He remained among the buffaloes and In-

dians of that district until 1883. During the twelve years he lived there with his family they were not off the farm over night upon any occasion. There were many trials, difficulties, not a few dangers, but also many pleasures in those years, and in spite of grasshoppers, fires, storms and other minor incidents, he was fairly prosperous.

In 1883 Mr. Van Ness removed with his family to Johnson, locating upon his present farm, which is situated upon section 18, Sterling Precinct, and 160 acres in extent; he also owns eighty acres on section 13. When he took his land there was a small house upon it, to which he has built an excellent addition. He has also erected stables and other farm buildings in a substantial manner, putting up such as will be of service in the Nebraska climate. He has also set up a windmill that is powerful enough to supply his stables, barn, cattle shed and residence. His orchard covers over six acres, and his home is very happily situated, and is one of the best in point of comfort, hospitality and homelikeness.

In the month of July, 1854, the subject of our sketch became the husband of Miss Jane Wright, the accomplished daughter of Lemuel and Experience Wright, of Connecticut, who came West about the year 1851, and settled in Dane County, Wis. Mr. Wright departed this life in the year 1859, and his wife in Harlan County, this State, in 1872. Five children have been born of the above union, and bear the names here appended: Willis, Albert, Sherman, Clara and Emma.

When the call came for patriotic friends of the Union to defend it from secession, Mr. Van Ness enlisted on the 14th of February, 1865, in Company A, of the 153d Illinois Infantry. He served through the Western campaign, being stationed at Nashville and Tullahoma. He was mustered out in September of the same year, and returned to his home.

For the greater part of his life our subject has been a member of the Democratic party, but for the last few years, being convinced that definite and concerted action was necessary in dealing with the liquor question, he became an affiliate of the Prohibition cause. Since returning from military service our subject has broken the greater of his land

and brought it to a high state of cultivation, has put one-quarter of his farm in tame grass, and made every provision for stock-raising, giving his attention chiefly to horses and hogs, with every prospect of even more than ordinary success.



JAMES R. GLASS. This gentleman, well known in the business circles of Tecumseh, where he is one of the enterprising business men, being engaged in the drug business, to which he has added a grocery department, and also the owner of valuable real estate in the town, was born in Shelbyville, Ky., on the 29th of November, 1858. There he continued to live until he attained his majority. In its schools he was educated, and after leaving its institutions of learning began life. The fall and winter of 1878-79 were spent by him in the College of Pharmacy of Louisville, Ky., after which he engaged in business at Sabetha, Kan., where he continued for five years, building up an extensive trade, and enjoying the reputation of being a most careful and accurate prescriptionist.

While in Kansas the subject of our sketch became acquainted with Miss Jennie McGuire, of Blairsville, Pa., and to her was united in wedlock on the 27th of May, 1881. They have become the parents of one bright and intelligent son, whom they have named Arthur. So successful was he in Sabetha that he was enabled to acquire several very valuable pieces of property, besides owning one of the best residences in the town. The removal to Tecumseh was effected upon the 30th of July, 1884, since which time he has been engaged with increasing prosperity and financial success as a druggist and grocer. His store is one of the attractive features in the business quarter of the town; his stock is always complete, and of the finest quality in either department. The store is situated on Clay street, almost opposite the new court-house.

Mr. Glass is a member in good standing of both the I. O. O. F. and Masonic fraternities, and has held important offices in both. His life has been molded largely after the guiding principles taught by the great light of masonry, in which he has been instructed. This has lightened the pathway of his

life, as under its guidance he has gone on his way fearing no danger. He is a devout member of the Christian Church, and for many years has been an active worker and able supporter thereof. Every worthy enterprise of a charitable or other commendable nature has received his liberal support.

The wife of our subject was born in Wisconsin. She is a daughter of the Hon. Miller and Mary B. McGuire. Her father was United States Senator for Wisconsin, and was still a Senator when he came home from Washington, was taken sick with pneumonia and died after a short illness. At this time his daughter was about five years of age. After her bereavement Mrs. McGuire removed to Blairsville. She gave her daughter the best education in her power, and had the happiness of seeing her graduate from the Blairsville Female Seminary. Senator McGuire was an energetic and prosperous business man, having a large connection as a hardware man and dealer in all kinds of agricultural implements. Miss Jennie went to Sabetha, Kan., on a visit to friends at that place, intending after a short time to return home, but was unable to do so, owing to her meeting with our subject and her subsequent marriage. Her mother still resides in Blairsville, and is the wife of a Mr. Dixon, one of the wealthy citizens of that place.

Jesse A. Glass, the father of our subject, was born on the 23d of March, 1817, in Virginia. He received his education in the Georgetown College, Ky., his parents having removed to that State in early childhood. After his education was completed and he had graduated from that institution he engaged in farming, stock raising and dealing, and became quite extensively connected in that branch of business. Financially, he has been a most pronounced success. At present he is Director of the Shelbyville Bank, a position he has held for many years. He has also 250 acres of fine farming land, besides considerable city property.

The father of our subject has always avoided politics, but has been one of the Trustees of his city. He is a trusted and honored man in the city, universally respected throughout the community. He has built and is still living in an elegant home, and enjoying the harvest of seed sown in other days. His health, both physical and mental, is un-

usually good for one of his age, and all his surroundings are such as to enable him to enjoy to the fullest possible extent this perhaps greatest blessing. The maiden name of his wife was Irene Reed. She was born in Versailles, Ky., and until her marriage resided with her parents. Of this union there has been born one child, the subject of this sketch, whose misfortune, however, it has been never to have known a mother's care, she having died when he was yet an infant. It is perhaps the more commendable in him that under such circumstances he is what he is, and yet it is but just and right to say that in all things his father has sought to fill the place thus vacated, and to do his utmost for his son's best and highest interests.

 CORNELIUS WOODLEY, Mayor of Tecumseh, and Assistant Cashier of the Chamberlain Banking House, came to this county in September, 1867, and cast his lot among its early pioneers. The greater portion of the country adjacent to the present flourishing city was wild and uncultivated, but Mr. Woodley, believing in its future prosperity, opened an office and engaged at once in real estate and insurance, in which he has been mostly interested since his residence here.

Our subject was at once recognized as a valuable and capable citizen, and the second year of his residence here was elected to the office of County Clerk, which position he held a period of four years. Subsequently he was elected Mayor, in which capacity he officiated several terms, was Chairman of the Board of Village Trustees, and prominent in the School Board. In fact he has been an office-holder most of the time for the last twenty years. In the organization of the First National Bank, in 1883, he was chosen Director and later President. Politically, he advocates the principles of the Republican party, of which he has been a leading member in this county. He has accumulated a good property, owning a fine residence on Jackson street, and other real estate in the city.

The subject of this sketch is the son of Anthony Woodley, who was born in Lycoming County, Pa.,

and made his home nearly his entire life in the vicinity of his native place, Williamsport, Lycoming County. He was mostly engaged in farm pursuits, and departed this life in 1863, when about sixty-five years old. The wife and mother, Mrs. Hannah (Van Fleet) Woodley, was also a native of the Keystone State, and with her husband a member in good standing of the Presbyterian Church. Her decease took place in 1862. Their family included nine children, six of whom lived to mature years. Of these five are living, making their homes mostly in the West.

Mr. Woodley was born near the town of Hughesville, Lycoming Co., Pa., April 25, 1822. He there received his early education, but completed his studies at the White Deer Valley School. Upon approaching manhood he first engaged in farming, but subsequently learned blacksmithing, and busied himself at the anvil most of the time until 1863. He had, however, in the meantime left his native State and taken up his residence in St. Paul, Minn., after traveling in the South and West. Later he spent his time mostly in St. Paul and Minneapolis, and in the latter city was quite extensively engaged for a period of fifteen years in the manufacture of plows. His labors in this direction were very successful, and he thus formed the basis of his present property.

Mr. Woodley while a resident of Minneapolis was united in marriage with Miss Jane Sleight, who became the mother of one child, which died when six months old. Mrs. Woodley died at her home in Minneapolis in 1863.



SAMUEL MINER, a farmer in good circumstances and residing on section 7, in Lincoln Precinct, is a native of what is now Monongalia County, W. Va., and was born Nov. 5, 1830. His parents, Samuel and Mary A. (Knock) Miner, are believed to have been also natives of the Old Dominion.

When our subject was an infant of but three months his father was drowned in the Monongalia River, and the mother about two years later was married a second time, to Josiah Worley. They

moved to Harrison County, Ohio, where our subject grew to the age of six years. The parents then became residents of Knox County, Ohio. Samuel acquired a common-school education as good as any afforded by the schools of that day, but when leaving school did not abandon his study of useful and instructive books. By a steady course of reading all his life, he has become generally well informed, and is as intelligent a citizen as he is a skillful farmer.

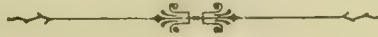
In the fall of 1851 our subject left Ohio and settled in Fulton County, Ill., where he began farming and operating a threshing-machine, besides other employments by which he could make an honest dollar. In Illinois also he met his fate in the person of Miss Mary J. Holmes, to whom he was married Aug. 7, 1856. This lady was born in Fulton County, Ill., July 13, 1838, and is the daughter of Thomas and Rachel A. (Dairy) Holmes, who were natives of Kentucky and West Virginia, and the father spent his last years in Illinois. The mother resides with her son in this county. The parental family consisted of eight children, all of whom are living.

To Mr. and Mrs. Miner there were born eight children, one of whom, Sylvester, died in infancy. The survivors are: William O., Thomas F., Hardin W.; Minnie G., the wife of Liberty Grant; James S., Archie R. and Charles S.

In the spring of 1871, our subject having disposed of his Illinois property, gathered together his family and household effects, and equipped with two lumber wagons and five horses, started overland for Nebraska. They camped and cooked by the wayside, sleeping in their wagons at night, and after a journey of eighteen days landed in Bedford Precinct, Nemaha County, where Mr. Miner purchased a tract of raw prairie land, upon which not a furrow has been turned, and upon which consequently were neither buildings nor fences. They sheltered themselves in their wagons until a dwelling could be erected, and our subject then commenced energetically the improvement and cultivation of his purchase. By incessant industry, the strictest economy and general good management, he built up a valuable farm, which he occupied until the spring of 1882. Then being able to sell

at a good profit, he disposed of his farm property in Nemaha County and came to Lincoln Precinct, this county, where he has since resided. His farm here comprises 210 acres of fertile land under good cultivation, and he has, as before, been uniformly prosperous.

Mr. Miner, politically, is a decided Democrat, and takes a genuine interest in the welfare of the people around him, being the friend of education, and the encourager of those enterprises calculated to advance the interests of the community. He is Moderator in his school district, and with his estimable wife occupies an enviable position in social circles. They are both active, intelligent, and held in high respect by their neighbors.



ROBERT SMART is well known not only as a pioneer of Johnson County, but as the founder of the pleasant and thriving town of Smartville, of which he is a highly honored resident. He was born in England in March, 1812, and was there reared and educated. Among the pleasant recollections of that period of his life is the friendship that existed between himself and the eminent novelist, Charles Dickens, with whose early years he was fully acquainted.

When our subject was twenty-four years old he paid his first visit to the United States, in 1836, and spent a year in Philadelphia, Pa. He then returned to England, and did not come back to this country until 1842, when he staid a short time in Philadelphia, selling carpets and woolen goods for an English firm. He then recrossed the Atlantic to his old home, and we do not hear of him in the United States again until 1851, when he came back to make a permanent stay. He stopped for awhile amid the Alleghany Mountains of Pennsylvania, and finally his business attracted him to Pittsburgh, in the same State, where he assisted in building the railway from there to Allegheny, and thence to Cresline, Ohio. He subsequently traveled for several years through the Southern States, until he located in Nebraska in 1851. He spent nine years in Peru engaged in the milling business, but about twenty-five years ago he came to Johnson County, and turned

his attention to farming, improving a valuable farm adjoining the town, which still belongs to him. He was one of the first settlers of this part of the State, and has been a very important factor in developing Johnson County. He shrewdly foresaw the many advantages possessed by the present location of the village named in his honor for the site of a thriving and busy town, and with characteristic energy and enterprise he laid out the town in 1879, and has done all that lies in his power to advance its interests. He induced the railway company to build a station here by presenting \$200 toward its erection, and in many other ways he has contributed toward the growth of the town.

Mr. Smart was twice married. He was first married in England, in 1835, to Miss Eliza Dunton, who died in the land of her nativity in 1838. She was a true woman in every sense of the word, and a devout member of the Episcopalian Church. One child was born of that marriage, Fannie, who married Lawson Cook, and subsequently died near Nebraska City, leaving a husband and three children to mourn their loss, with many other friends. Mr. Smart's second marriage was to Mrs. Nancy Price, and she is still living, at the venerable age of eighty-nine years, to share his pleasant home. She has also been twice married, her first husband, to whom she was united in Kentucky when she was eighteen years old, having been Robert Price. They moved from their native State to Ohio some time after their marriage, but in the spring of 1856 they came to Nebraska to cast in their lot with its early pioneers, and thus were among the first settlers of this part of the State. They located in Spring Creek, where Mr. Price took up some land with the intention of developing a farm. He was doing very well, and his prospects of becoming a prosperous farmer were bright, when his useful career was cut short by his untimely death.

The winter of 1856-57 was one long remembered by the early settlers of Nebraska as one of unexampled severity, and on the 11th of December, 1856, Mr. Price and his son Stephen were frozen to death while on their way to a mill near Nebraska City. After the death of her husband Mrs. Smart still continued to live on the land that he had taken up, and showed great ability in developing it into

a fine farm. She sold from it the logs to build the first house in Tecumseh. But Mrs. Smart's claim to the high respect that is accorded to her by young and old does not rest solely on the fact that she was an early pioneer of Johnson County, but on her own good qualities as well. She has one son, John Price, who is a respected resident of this town. Mrs. Smart's grandson, James Price, son of Hansford and Permella Price, was the first white child born in Johnson County. He is now living in Smartville.

Mr. Smart is a man whose sterling worth as well as his ability has brought him into prominence in this part of the county, and he has hosts of friends. He is a deeply religious man, was brought up in the Episcopal faith, and he is a communicant of that church. When the post-office was established in Smartville he was appointed Postmaster, which position he still holds, much to the gratification of his fellow-citizens.



JOHNS GOLDSBY. In the career of this well-to-do farmer of Western Precinct we behold that of one of its oldest pioneers. He came to this section of country when Indians, deer, wolves and wildcats were numerous, and also saw a few specimens of the rare and graceful antelope. Around him stretched a wild and uncultivated prairie, eighty-five acres of which he secured, and has transformed into a well-cultivated farm. This lies on section 13, and is provided with comfortable buildings and the other appliances in keeping with industry and intelligence. Mr. Goldsby has done a great deal of hard work, and in the affairs of his community has been an honest and useful citizen, encouraging the projects calculated for its general welfare and progress.

Our subject was born in Washington County, Ind., Jan. 28, 1821, and is the son of Briggs M. and Nancy (Solady) Goldsby, natives of Virginia and Kentucky, and now deceased. The parents some years after their marriage moved from Greene County, Ind., to Illinois, settling in Clark County, where John attended school in a log cabin, the

seats of which were made with boards pinned to the wall, and otherwise furnished after the primitive fashion of those days. The roof was of clapboards kept in place by weight-poles, and light was admitted through holes cut in the logs, and covered with greased paper. His education was carried on mostly during the winter season, while in summer he assisted his father in the cultivation of the land and the building up of the homestead. He continued under the parental roof until a man twenty-seven years of age. In 1847 he began to make preparations for an establishment of his own, and on the 2d of December, that year, provided himself with one of its chief attributes, a wife, being united in marriage with Miss Matilda Summers.

Mrs. Matilda Goldsby was born March 25, 1829, in Kentucky, and is the daughter of Matthew and Tabitha (Williams) Summers, who were natives of Kentucky, and the father now deceased. The mother is in Illinois. Our subject and his wife began the journey of life together in Illinois. They came to Nebraska in the spring of 1866, settling in Western Precinct, upon the place which they now own and occupy, and have thus been residents here for a period of twenty-three years. They have now become widely and favorably known, and number their friends by the score in this county.

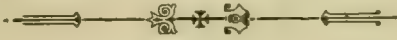
To Mr. and Mrs. Goldsby there have been born eleven children, eight of whom are living, namely: Ellen, George, Mary, Rachel, Harriet, Albert, Tabitha and Andrew J. One son, Charles, died at his home in Kansas, in August, 1887, at the age of twenty-nine years, leaving a wife and three children. The other members of the family are residents of Texas, Kansas and Nebraska.

Mr. Goldsby, although taking the interest which every intelligent man feels in the affairs connected with his country's prosperity, has never sought office, considering his duty done when exercising the rights of the American citizens at the public elections. He cast his first Presidential vote for James K. Polk, and has since given his support to the Democratic party. His has been a long and interesting experience in the settlement of a new country, and he has watched with the keenest satisfaction the growth and prosperity of the now important State which at the time of his coming



B. J. Baker

here was but a Territory. In the building up of one of its most comfortable homesteads he has in this manner contributed his quota toward bringing about the present condition of Johnson County.



BENJAMIN J. BAKER is a veteran of the Mexican War, who some years subsequently became a pioneer of Johnson County, and one of the first settlers in the precinct of Sterling, where he is still actively pursuing agriculture, and has a large, well-improved farm on section 17. He was born in Lancaster County, Pa., Sept. 17, 1820, but when he was eighteen months old his parents removed from his birthplace to Cumberland County, in the same State. He was there reared, and until twenty-five years of age made his home there. He then enlisted as a private in the United States Army, and served five years, having in the meantime been promoted to Sergeant of Company D, 4th Artillery, under Capt. John M. Washington. He took part in the Mexican War, and was discharged at Ft. Brow, Tex., in 1850. He then returned to Pennsylvania and staid until the following spring, when he wended his way to Davenport, Iowa. From there he started the next fall, with four others, going down the Mississippi River to New Orleans, and by the Nicaragua route to the "Golden State." He was profitably engaged in mining and farming there for some years, and at one time was employed at a salary of \$100 a month as a foreman over other hands on a large ranch, whose owner raised 17,000 bushels of wheat one year. Mr. Baker staid in California nearly five years, and returned to his old home in Cumberland County, Pa., by way of New York, in the spring of 1856, and shortly after was united in marriage to Miss Sarah J. Montgomery, only child of William and Elizabeth Montgomery.

Selecting Nebraska, then a wild and sparsely settled Territory, as the site of the future home they were to rear together, the genial, healthful climate, rich soil and other advantages of this prairie country deciding their choice of a location, our subject and his bride started for their destination soon after their wedding, traveling by rail to Burlington, Iowa,

the terminus of the railway. There Mr. Baker bought a team of horses and a wagon, with which they proceeded to within about 100 miles of the Missouri. At that point our subject traded his horses for three yokes of oxen, with which they made the remainder of the long and tedious journey, arriving on what is now known as the "Old Clark Farm," on section 31, two miles down the creek from Sterling. Mr. Baker and his wife staid there until the next spring, when he purchased his present place on section 17, to which they immediately removed. In the years that followed they experienced all the vicissitudes and hardships common to pioneer life in a wild, prairie country; but they patiently endured the absence of the comforts, conveniences and luxuries that they had been used to in their old home, and the trials that they encountered but strengthened their characters. It has been wisely stated that the experiences of such a life "after all make us better fitted for the cares and responsibilities of after-life—make us have a warmer side for our fellowmen, and create in us a willingness to lend a helping hand to those who are in distress." This is eminently true of our subject and his wife, and their names are synonyms of all love and charity, and many have cause to bless their benefactions. They have never had any children of their own blood, yet have reared three—Lydia Wagoner, August Rudy and Robert E. Krintz, giving them the advantages of a good home and a careful training in the duties of life. Their adopted son Robert is still with his foster-parents.

Mr. Baker now has his farm, comprising 240 acres, well improved, and in one of the most comfortable homes in the precinct he and his wife are spending their declining years in the enjoyment of a well-earned competence. Mr. Baker is a pleasant and entertaining conversationalist, and is fond of talking over early days in Johnson County, when the Indians were plentiful hereabout, and used to frequently give him a call as they passed through the precinct; when deer, antelope and an abundance of wild game roamed at will over the uncultivated prairies. The nearest mill was at Nebraska City, many miles distant, and in the fall of 1857 Mr. Baker and two of his neighbors, Mr. Root and Mr. McClure, made a trip thither, from which they

did not return with their "grists" until the end of nine days. They also did their trading and received their mail at Nebraska City. Mr. Baker has borne an honorable part in the public life of this district, was its first Justice of the Peace, and has since served as Assessor. He was prominently identified with the Grange when it existed here. His estimable wife is a faithful member of the Presbyterian Church. The portrait of this honored pioneer appears on an adjoining page of this ALBUM.



JUDGE JOHN WILSON, who is both County and Police Judge for Johnson County and Tecumseh City, enjoys the utmost confidence of the citizens, as a clear, synthetical thinker, and one who holds the balance of Justice with a steady hand, and for the same reason is held in wholesome fear by the wrong-doer. The father of this gentleman, William Wilson, was born in Scotland in 1772, and there lived through the whole of his life. He was an able attorney and counselor-at-law and enjoyed a large practice in the city of Glasgow. His wife was Isabella Brown, of Argyleshire, to whom he was married in the year 1820. The subject of this sketch was their only child. Mr. Wilson died in 1847, after a life that had continued for seventy-five years. His wife had preceded him to the silent land in the year 1832. He was an enthusiastic member of the Masonic fraternity, and with his wife, was a devout member of the Presbyterian Church. In addition to his town house he had an elegant country seat at Neithercroy, which is situated about eight miles east of the city, on the Glasgow & Edinburgh Railway.

Isabella (Brown) Wilson, the mother of our subject, was the daughter of Archibald Brown, and was born at Islay, in the county of Argyle, about 1794, where she made her home until her marriage. Her father was quite an extensive farmer, operating an extensive property upon the above Island where he was born. Islay, it will be remembered, lies adjacent to the Island of Jura, and is almost the most westerly of the group of islands which are included in the above county. His wife was a member of the historic Campbell family. They brought

up eleven daughters and two sons, all of whom entered honorable paths of life and when of proper age joined the Presbyterian Church, of which her father was an Elder for sixty years. This venerable and honored gentleman died at the advanced age of one hundred and eight years.

Judge Wilson was born in Paisley, Renfrewshire, Scotland, on the 27th of August, 1824. The Scotch schools have been justly renowned for the completeness of their curriculum and the thoroughness of their instruction. Our subject was an attendant at the Glasgow schools and received a good education. Upon leaving the school he learned the trade of a carpenter and joiner, and after thoroughly mastering the same engaged in business as a contractor in that line. This he continued to follow in Glasgow from 1845 to 1851. It was quite a lucrative business, and his success was very flattering to one who had so recently concluded his apprenticeship.

The lady with whom our subject united his life was Miss Ellen Black, of Lesmore, Argyleshire, their nuptials being celebrated on the 22d of July, 1844. While in Scotland four children were given them, who brought additional brightness to their home, and if possible more completely cemented their union. Only two, however, of these children lived to come to America. Isabella and Catherine were laid away in a quiet Scottish graveyard, while John and Ellen were spared to their parents and in course of time accompanied them to this country. In 1851 Judge Wilson landed in New York, and remained working at his trade until the following year. He then sent for his wife and family and upon their arrival removed to Illinois, making his home at Galena, and being engaged as a carpenter by the Illinois Central Railway Company. He continued to hold this position until the outbreak of the war, when he enlisted in defense of his adopted country, becoming a private in Company F, 12th Illinois Infantry. He was at Galena on the night of the 14th of April, 1861, when the order came from President Lincoln to raise 6,000 men. That was sufficient, and he was one of the first sixty who presented themselves for enlistment. The next morning the company was filled out and the work of preparing them for the front was pushed with

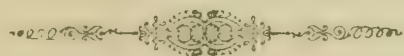
When he moved into the city Judge Wilson purchased one of the best residences he could find and was ready for work. He was elected County Judge in November, 1885, and served acceptably to those who had placed him there, so much so that they elected him for a second term, which is yet unexpired; he was elected Police Magistrate in April, 1887, also represented this county in the Constitutional Convention held in Lincoln in 1871. He was Justice of the Peace of Helena Precinct for many years. In all these offices he has so won the esteem

Since coming to this country Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have had four children added to their family circle, but there have also been removals by death, so that now their son John alone survives; he is a rising and able lawyer. Mrs. Wilson is a very attentive and earnest member of the Presbyterian Church, to which the Judge also is attached, though not a member. He is a liberal supporter of the same and takes great pleasure in aiding various enterprises connected therewith. He owns an exceedingly fine residence on Lincoln street and also the farming property in this and Webster County, as above mentioned. An extract from a local paper remarks that "Judge Wilson made his entry twenty-four years ago, and after fully searching the records the Judge says he believes his farm is the only one now owned in Johnson County by the person who made the original entry of the same date. The farm is in Center Precinct, eight miles north of Tecumseh." In the Masonic fraternity Judge Wilson is quite prominent. He was raised to the Sublime Degree of a Master Mason at Tecumseh in 1867, and has since been initiated into the mysteries of the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, and is affiliated with Furnas Chapter No. 9, and the Council at Tecumseh; is also Commander of the Little Phil Post No. 270, G. A. R. Both in the fraternities, and society generally, and in the profession, Judge Wilson occupies a position most enviable, receiving every worthy regard and esteem.

JOHNNY McCONNEL. The merchants of Crab Orchard have a worthy representative in the subject of this biographical epitome. Mr. McConnell was born in Washington County, Pa., on the 29th of May, 1854. The father, Andrew McConnell, now deceased, was a native of Ireland. He came to the United States when a young man, and located in Pennsylvania, where he was initiated into the mysteries of milling, with the idea of making it his business. He went to

the carpenter's trade, also at the same time gaining a good knowledge of general agriculture. When twenty-two years old he was united in marriage with Mrs. Charlotte Poyner, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Van Buren Township, Aug. 22, 1861. Soon afterward Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson came to Nebraska, and settled upon the land which our subject now owns and occupies. His career has been creditable to him as a man and a citizen, and the fact that he is highly spoken of by those who have known him intimately since the time of coming to this county is one of the best recommendations a man could desire. He has been upright and honorable in his business transactions, careful and conscientious, courteous and obliging, fulfilling every known duty to the best of his ability.

Mr. Dickerson comes from a good family, being the son of Joshua D. and Elizabeth (Dawson) Dickerson, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and the father born in 1804. The latter lived with his parents in his native State until their removal to Ohio, and then assisted his father in the building up of a homestead from the wilderness of Guernsey County. Later he settled on his own land, and continued a resident of the Buckeye State until the spring of 1866, when he accompanied his son Philip to Nebraska, and settled on a tract of land adjoining him. In the fall of 1881 he removed to Texas, where his death took place in 1884. The mother died in this county the year following their arrival here, in the fall of 1867. The father was a member of the Predestinarian Baptist Church. To Mr. and Mrs. Dickerson there have been born no children.



JULIUS WOLFF is widely known in many parts of the West as one of the most noted divines of the German Lutheran pulpit. He is very active in denominational work, possessing great executive ability, wonderful tact, and infinite patience, traits that are shown in the fact that he has probably organized more Lutheran Churches in different Western States than any of

his brethren of like faith. He combines strength of character, an indomitable will and shrewdness, with sincerity, and a kind heart that prompts him to attempt to alleviate the sufferings of the weak, the unfortunate and the downtrodden. He is now engaged in the double capacity of teacher and preacher in the church which he organized in Sterling Precinct some years ago, besides successfully managing his farming interests here.

Our subject was born in Germany, Jan. 30, 1823, and was reared, educated, and also married in the Fatherland, Caroline Landwig becoming his wife Jan. 2, 1850. Mr. Wolff taught school for twenty-one years in his native country, and then turned his face to the United States in 1863, and after landing on these shores, accompanied by his wife, he located in Minnesota. He was engaged in teaching there for twelve years, and he also preached, and while a resident of that State organized eight churches. He came to Nebraska in 1876, having spent a year before that in traveling, and located in Dodge County. In 1877 Mr. Wolff came to Johnson County, and purchased 160 acres of land, which constitutes his present farm, on which he and his family live very pleasantly. He continued, however, in the ministry, and as a teacher, conducting a school in the church which was established in this township under his supervision in 1883, with a membership of thirty-four. Under his ministrations the church has prospered spiritually and financially, and has been enabled to buy a house in which to worship and forty acres of land, and there is a fine Sunday-school connected with the church. Mr. Wolff has also been instrumental in organizing three other churches since he came to Nebraska, all of which are in a flourishing condition. As a teacher Mr. Wolff has acquired a good reputation, and is giving general satisfaction. He is well educated, and has fine literary tastes.

Our subject has been twice married. The patient and devoted wife, to whom he had been united in early manhood in the Fatherland, died during their residence in Dodge County in 1876, after a wedded life of twenty-six years. She was a true Christian, and in every respect a most exemplary woman, whom to know was to esteem. Mr. Wolff's marriage to his present excellent wife took place in

1878. She was formerly Mrs. Catherine Breidenstein, and was the mother of three children. Our subject has a family of three children by his present marriage, but had none by his former marriage. Five of the children are at home, while the other is working on a farm.



GEORGE D. BENNETT, Cashier of the Tecumseh Savings Bank, and identified with that enterprise from the time of its organization, is the son of Abel B. Bennett, who was born at Bridgeport on the 12th of December, 1833, and there educated and brought up, after which he engaged in stock buying. He left his native town and went to Bronson, Branch Co., Mich., while yet a young man, and engaged in farming and stock raising, feeding and dealing. About 1863 he sold his Michigan property and interests, and went to Lagrange County, Ind., where he has a finely improved and extensive farm, and is engaged with stock as before. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Mary A. Dryer, of Lagrange. Four children have been born to them who still live. Mrs. Bennett also is living, and with her husband is enjoying the prosperity which is the result of toil in the past years. This lady was born at Catskill, N. Y., in the year 1836, to Darius and Clarissa (Rogers) Dryer. They moved West to Indiana, where they made their home until their death. Their daughter Mary resided with them until the time of her marriage. Her husband has filled most of the township offices, is an esteemed member of the I. O. O. F., and also a prosperous and successful farmer and business man.

Wildman Bennett, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Lincolnshire, England. As a young man he came to America, settled at Bridgeport, and married Miss Nichols of that place, and to them were born eleven children. He removed to Branch County, Mich., where quite a large number of his descendants still reside. After sixty-three years of life he passed to his last rest from his home in that place in the year 1865, having survived his wife about five years. They had both been stanch members of the Baptist Church, in which faith his family

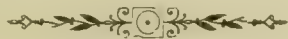
had been instructed from earliest years. This gentleman and his family were among the first to settle in Branch County.

George D. Bennett was born on Jackson Prairie, four miles south of Orland, in Steuben County, Ind., on the 17th of August, 1859. He received his early education at Wolcottville and Lagrange, where he completed the full course as then prescribed, and was graduated, after which he taught school for two years, returning at the end of that time to join his father in cattle-dealing, which he continued for three years most successfully. In 1880 he came to Beatrice, and was engaged in the eastern part of Gage County raising fine stock of select breeds and high grade. Selling there he went to Crab Orchard, and for two years was in the bank at that place. After that he came to Tecumseh, in June, 1884, and has since made it his permanent residence.

Mr. Bennett occupies a very high position in the business world, and is also much esteemed by the community at large. In Crab Orchard he filled the position of Assistant Cashier. Here there were no offices except in the savings bank, where Mr. Bennett is. He is a gentleman of undoubted business ability, honor and integrity, and being comparatively young the future is spread before him glowing with the brightness of his prospects. He is abundantly capable, should he so desire, of occupying the most prominent position his ambition might lead him to seek, and also has manhood enough to enable him to retain his balance and high personal character while holding the same.

Our subject is a member of the Masonic and I. O. O. F. fraternities, and also of the Modern Woodmen of America; also of the Odd Fellows' Encampment, and has served as Senior Deacon in the Masonic Lodge, as Secretary in the Chapter, and holds the high degree of a Knight Templar. We cull the following from a recent issue of the *Chieftain*, without which this sketch would be entirely incomplete: "On Thursday evening, Sept. 27, 1888, a pleasant ceremony was performed at the residence of the Hon. C. A. Holmes. The occasion was the marriage of George D. Bennett to Althea, eldest daughter of the above-mentioned gentleman. The nuptials were celebrated at 8 P. M.,

at which the Rev. M. J. DeLong took the initiative. There was quite a large gathering of the friends and relatives of the family, all of whom brought with them some expression of the good wishes and congratulations that might be remembered after the vocal expression of them had passed. Later in the evening the happy couple were driven to their new home on Upper Third street, which the groom had provided and arranged in keeping with their joint desires." The readers of this volume, especially those personally acquainted with our subject and wife, will certainly not be behind the friends gathered on that auspicious occasion in their desire for a bright and happy future for them.



HENRY C. CARMAN and his family came to this county in the spring of 1876, settling at their present farm on section 18 in Spring Creek Precinct. The land was little removed from its primitive condition, and the family were first settled in a dug-out house, and for a number of seasons lived and labored in true pioneer style. Mr. C. paid \$10 per acre for his farm, which has, under his wise management and incessant industry, more than doubled in value, and yields bountifully of the richest crops of Southern Nebraska.

Our subject has been prominent in the affairs of his precinct, especially for the last ten years, serving as Constable and Justice of the Peace two years, and holding various other positions accorded the trustworthy citizen. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and is at present the School Treasurer of his district. Both he and his estimable wife have taken an active interest in the advancement and welfare of their community, being kind, hospitable and public-spirited, and encouraging the projects calculated to elevate the standard of education and morality.

Mr. Carman, in addition to general agriculture, is especially interested in live stock, keeping good grades of cattle and swine. He is essentially a Western man, having been born in Mason County, Ill., June 9, 1844. His parents, Libni and Elizabeth (DeVall) Carman, were natives of New York,

where they were reared, educated and married, and where they became the parents of a large family of children, of whom the following survive: Julia, the wife of Jacob Garriss, of Logan County, Kan.; Solomon, of Fremont County, Iowa; Sarah E., Mrs. Wilkerson, also of that county, and a widow; Henry C., of this sketch, and Mary, the wife of John L. Spicer, of Fremont County, Iowa. The father was a second time married, the only child of this union being a daughter, Annie.

Libni Carman left the Empire State about fifty years ago, and from Illinois, about 1855, changed his residence to Fremont County, Iowa, settling among its earliest pioneers, and residing there until his death, which occurred June 15, 1888. He was successful in his labors as an agriculturist, and left a large estate to his heirs. He was a Republican in politics, probably from the time of the organization of the county, and a man liberal and public-spirited, one who interested himself in the welfare of the people about him, contributing of his time and means, as opportunity afforded, in the advancement of education, and all other projects tending to their moral and religious welfare. The mother died in Fremont County, Iowa, in April, 1869.

The subject of this sketch received but a limited education, but at an early age became strong of muscle and self-reliant in disposition, and by a course of general reading familiarized himself with the important topics of the day. He was early imbued with the principles of patriotism by his honored father, and shortly after the outbreak of the Rebellion proffered his services as a Union soldier, enlisting, in the spring of 1861, in Company D, 5th Missouri Cavalry, which became a part of the Western Army and operated largely among the bushwhackers. Young Carman participated in a number of engagements, meeting the enemy at Blue Springs and on the Little Blue, acquitting himself creditably, and receiving an honorable discharge in June, 1862, at the expiration of his term of enlistment.

After becoming a civilian again, Mr. Carman returned to Fremont County, Iowa, and prepared to establish a home of his own. With this end in view he was married, July 12, 1863, to Miss Emma

I. Jones, who was born in Hancock County, Ohio, July 18, 1846. They spent the first fourteen years of their wedded life in Iowa, and from there came to this county, as already stated. They are the parents of six children, four of whom are living, namely: Marcus H., Lucy C., Etta L. and John L. William H. and Ami died when two and a half years and six months' old respectively.

DAVID J. WILSON is widely and favorably known as a successful farmer and stock-raiser in this county. His property is situated on section 5, township 6 north, and range 11 east, Helena Precinct. He is a son of John and Mary Wilson, natives of New York State, where he also was born, on the 25th of August, 1826, in Cayuga County, and was one of eight children who comprised the home circle. Of these five are living, whom we name as follows: William, now residing with our subject; Chloe, who was married to the late John Mitchell, of Tompkins County, N. Y.; David J.; John J., also of Helena Precinct; Mary J., the wife of Samuel C. Branch, of Cayuga County, N. Y. Those deceased were named Saphronia, Samuel and Sarah L.

Until he attained his majority the subject of our sketch continued to live in his native county. His education was received in the district schools, and later he was a regular worker on the farm. In 1865 he went to California, where he traveled and prospected for about a year. Coming to Nebraska in 1867 he was taken with the fine prospects, excellent condition and situation offered in this county, and purchased 160 acres of land, the same on which he now resides. He staid first for about two years, and then traveled for about five in a camp wagon to and from the Black Hills, Dak., to Nebraska City, and also to Kansas, having had three ranches at different points in the latter State.

Our subject effected permanent settlement on his Johnson County property in 1878, and since that time has devoted himself to the work of making it one of the finest farms in the county, in which he has been more than successful. He represents the busy, bustling, intelligent and thrifty pioneers of

the State, and to this doubtless is due the magnificent results that have attended his work. He and his brother William own over 800 acres of land in partnership; 160 acres of it is in this and the remainder is in Otoe County.

Upon the 15th of April, 1877, Mr. Wilson and Sarah E. Campbell, of Iowa, were united in wedlock. She was born in Fremont County, Iowa, on the 27th of February, 1861, and is a daughter of Adam and Sarah Campbell. Her parents, who were natives respectively of Missouri and Kentucky, are now residing in Norton County, Kan., where her father is engaged in stock-raising. Their marriage has been fruitful in the birth of three children: Bill, who, was born Feb. 12, 1878; Doc, July 9, 1879, and Chloe, Feb. 21, 1887.

The subject of our sketch has been identified with the School Board of his district for several years, and being deeply interested in educational matters and in the welfare of the rising generation of citizens, has done excellent service. In politics he is a Republican, and in the fraternities is recognized as an efficient member of the I. O. O. F.

William Wilson, the brother of our subject, mentioned above, was born in Cayuga County, N. Y., on the 21st of September, 1819, and continued to make his residence there until 1878, since which time he has lived in this county, and has grown up with the county, and is now one of the well-to-do citizens and prosperous farmers and stock-raisers. In politics he also is a staunch Republican, and is a very active member of the community, more especially so when any project or enterprise is on foot that looks to the advancement of the general social interests.

WILLIAM R. COLLINS, who settled in the county a pioneer farmer, is the owner of a valuable property, comprising 100 acres on section 18, township 6 north, range 12 east. He is a native of Beaver County, Pa., and was born near Beaver on the 25th of December, 1835. His parents, Samuel and Eliza R. (Cole) Collins, were born in the city of Charleston, S. C. Upon the father's side our subject is of Scotch-Irish descent. Grandfather Cole was the owner of an ex-

tensive plantation in that State, and operated the same by negro slaves. There were four children besides our subject born to his parents, viz.: Martha, who is the wife of Joseph Warner, of Crawford County, Pa.; Samuel, who is believed to be living in Kansas; also Maria and Josephine, who are deceased.

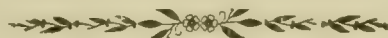
The childhood of our subject was clouded by the death of his father, thus depriving him of many opportunities and helps in his start in life. At the early age of fourteen he felt it incumbent upon him, as the eldest child of the family, to do what he could toward its support, and accordingly became watchman on a Mississippi River steamboat, his duties being to trim the lights, call passengers getting on and off, and so on, besides numerous other duties of a similar nature. After a number of years of such work, running between St. Louis and New Orleans, he became capable of almost any work or duties in connection with the boats, and was counted among the old veteran river hands. He was for the greater part of the time upon the "Cora Anderson." This boat was snagged and sunk about a year before the close of the war; it occurred at Milligan's Bend, about twenty-five miles above Vicksburg. It was during the same season that the "Antelietta" was sunk at Commerce. Our subject was upon the latter boat at the time. He left the river and his occupation upon the boats about the year 1864, and, going to Mason County, Ill., engaged in farming.

Our subject continued agricultural life in Mason County until the year 1870. During that time he rented the property he operated. Then he came to Johnson County, and took up a homestead claim of 100 acres, being that he still owns. It was at the time entirely uncultivated prairie land, of small value. What it is to-day in productiveness and fertility he has made it by patient perseverance, continued effort and excellent management. He had to meet all those trying difficulties and unpleasant experiences inseparable from frontier life, but has been proud to see his adopted State taking such magnificent strides to the front place among the States, and to know that every day of his pioneer life has been a help to that grand result.

The 28th of August, 1872, is a day worthy of

recollection with our subject, as that whereon he was united with Mrs. Phœbe A. Clapp, widow of William Clapp, and daughter of Samuel and Rozetta Brott. This lady was born in Ohio, Sept. 25, 1844. She received careful home training, and such education as was within the power of her parents to obtain for her. By this union our subject is the parent of one daughter, Aberrilla. By her first marriage Mrs. Collins is the mother of three children, viz.: Elvira, the wife of William Stubblefield, of Greene County, Ill.; Mary J., who is married to Peter Kutscher, of Holt County, Neb.; and Rosa C., who died when about eighteen years of age.

Our subject enjoys the confidence and regard of his fellow-citizens, and has frequently been approached with a view to his acceptance of some public trust, but he has always preferred to continue the quiet but busy home life. Politically, he is a firm believer in Democratic principles. Religiously, both he and his wife are at home within the membership of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are there, as elsewhere, most favorably regarded by all.



GEORGE C. POTTER, a resident of the city of Sterling, was for many years one of the foremost preachers of the denomination of United Brethren in Christ, and is well known in different parts of the West, where he has traveled in the interests of his church. He was a revivalist of much note, and was very successful in his work, organizing a number of churches, and was the means, in the hands of his Master, of bringing many souls to Christ. He was a man of unwonted energy and force of character, and so zealous was he in the cause he loved so well that his health gave way beneath the constant strain, and he was obliged to abandon the pulpit on account of a bronchial affection, although he still retains his ministerial standing.

Mr. Potter was born Oct. 14, 1829, in Washington County, N. Y., his parents being Elisha and Mariah C. (Page) Potter. His mother was a niece of the illustrious Gov. Clinton, of New York, and

her grandfather, John Page, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and died at the advanced age of ninety-six years. Our subject passed the years of his boyhood in his native State, but when he was sixteen years old his parents went to live in Chicago, Ill., and five years later they crossed the Mississippi, and in Fayette County, Iowa, made their home until death summoned them to the better world, the father dying at the age of sixty-five, and the mother, who died one year ago, dying at the venerable age of eighty-eight.

Our subject removed with his parents to Iowa, and when he was twenty-two years old he felt a call to enter the ministry of the United Brethren Church, and from thenceforth he consecrated his life to Christ's work. He went out into the world as a revivalist to preach the Gospel as it is interpreted by his church, and he soon became a power in his denomination, and in his itinerant wanderings to and fro among God's people his earnest and burning words led many to seek to lead a better life. He was a welcome visitor in many a household, to whose inmates he brought the comforts of the Gospel, and by his eloquence and zeal he gathered the people together in various places, and founded churches, many of which are standing monuments of his faithful work in those long twenty years that he was active in the ministry. As we have before mentioned, he was at length obliged to retire to private life, and in 1887 he came to Sterling that he might be benefited by the dry, salubrious and healthful climate of Nebraska. Although he is still possessed of much of his old fervor, and would like to be an active worker in the vineyard, yet he is resigned to his lot, and quietly does what good he can while awaiting the Master's call to a higher and nobler life. Soon after coming here he connected himself with the Methodist Church, there being none of his denomination represented here.

The Rev. Mr. Potter was united in marriage to Miss Margaret M. Andrews, Oct. 21, 1849, and to her encouragement and sympathy in his work he has been greatly indebted for a successful ministry. Their marriage has been blessed to them by the birth of eight children, all of whom are living, namely: Edna J., now Mrs. M. L. Snyder, of Oxford, Neb.;

Lucy A., Mrs. A. L. Wells, of Spirit Lake, Iowa; May, Mrs. George Lawrs, of Omaha; George P., who lives in this city; Frank M., who married Miss Kittie Rife, and lives in this city; Mamie, Mrs. H. Buck, of Fall River County, Dak.; Mabel B. and Maud, who are at home with their parents.

Mr. Potter does not mingle much in political life, or seek office, but he upholds the policy of the Republican party, believing it to be the best by which to guide National affairs.

JOHAN D. SCHUMANN, of Lincoln Precinct, is comfortably located on his farm of eighty acres comprising a portion of section 9, where he settled in the pioneer days, in the summer of 1870. His neighbors were few and far between, and he battled with the various difficulties of life in a new settlement for a series of years, then began to reap the reward of his persevering industry. He has now a finely improved farm, with suitable buildings, and all the accessories of the modern country home.

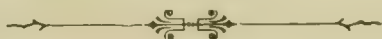
Our subject was cradled on the other side of the Atlantic, in the Province of Holstein, Germany, where his birth took place July 17, 1841. His parents were John and Elsaba (Brandt) Schumann, who were also of German birth and ancestry, and who, when our subject was a lad ten years of age, emigrated to America, taking passage in 1851 on a sailing-vessel at the port of Hamburg, embarking March 15, and landing in New Orleans on the 8th of June following. From the Crescent City they boarded a Mississippi steamboat, which conveyed them to Davenport, Iowa, where they sojourned about six months. Thence they removed to Rock Island County, Ill., where the father engaged in farming, and where John D. was reared to manhood.

Our subject received but a limited education, but was trained in habits of industry and economy, and by reading as he has had opportunity, has kept himself fairly well posted upon the leading events of the day. Like his father before him, he chose farming for his occupation, and continued a member of the parental household until 1875. He was married

rather late in life, when thirty-four years of age, Feb. 27, 1875, to Miss Sarah E. Rickle. The marriage took place in Henry County, Ill. Mrs. Schumann was born in Wayne County, Ohio, Jan. 19, 1851, and of her union with our subject there is one child, a son, Oliver R., who was born July 16, 1879.

Mr. Schumann, in the summer of 1870, crossed the Mississippi the second time and took up a tract of land, eighty acres in extent, in Lincoln Precinct, this county, of which he has since been a resident. He built up his homestead upon primitive soil, and was fairly prosperous from the start. It has taken years of labor, and involved an outlay of thousands of dollars to bring his homestead to its present condition, but he considers the time and money well spent. He has become thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country, votes the straight Democratic ticket, and is a School Director in his district.

During the second year of the war Mr. Schumann enlisted, Aug. 15, 1862, in Company K, 129th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and the regiment mostly engaged guarding railroads and bridges in Kentucky and Tennessee, principally along the line of the Louisville and the Nashville Railroads. On account of exposure and hardship Mr. Schumann suffered greatly from erysipelas, but bravely stood at his post and remained with his comrades until after the close of the war, receiving his discharge on the 3d of July, 1865.



RUFUS HOWE. The people who settled in Johnson County during its earlier days gathered here from all points of the compass. The subject of this sketch, a well-to-do farmer of Western Precinct, first opened his eyes to the light near the city of Toronto, Canada, Feb. 23, 1851. He is of New England ancestry, his father, Rufus Howe, having been a native of Vermont, and the son of Orson Howe, a second cousin of the noted Elias Howe, inventor of the celebrated sewing-machine which bears his name. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was

Evaline Miller. She was born in Connecticut, and is now deceased. Rufus Howe spent his last years in Illinois, and died about 1857.

Orson Howe, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was very much like his cousin Elias in point of mechanical genius. At the time of his death he had been working on a knitting-machine, aiming to effect greater improvements, in hopes that it might be made available in time to come. He spent his last years in Illinois. The children of Rufus and Evaline (Miller) Howe, the parents of our subject, consisted of a son and daughter.

The parents of our subject left the Dominion in 1854, and settled in Ashtabula County, Ohio, where the father carried on merchandising until 1857, when the family moved to Kankakee County, Ill., where commenced the early education of our subject. He was a bright and studious lad, fond of his books, and making good headway, entered Eureka College after having attended the High School at Monticello, Iowa, and the academy at Onarga, Ill. Having become an orphan early in life he was thrown upon his own resources, and paid his way through the academy and college by teaching.

In the fall of 1881 Mr. Howe crossed the Mississippi to Cedar County, Iowa, where he engaged in general work until the spring of 1883, at which time he made his preparations for settlement in Nebraska, and soon afterward took possession of the homestead where he now resides. He was married in Knox County, Ill., Dec. 24, 1876, to Miss Louisa, daughter of Thaddeus Olmsted, of Maquon. Of this union there was born one child only, Elizabeth E., who died Sept. 8, 1888, aged three years and six months. Little Bessie, as she was called, was a remarkably bright and interesting child, and her death was a severe blow to the stricken parents, in which they received the sympathies of the entire community.

Mrs. Howe was born March 30, 1853, in Knox County, Ill., and is the sister of Dr. Theodore Olmsted, who, in addition to his otherwise lucrative practice, is physician for the Central Illinois and the Southern Pacific Railroad Companies. He was for two years an assistant of the noted Dr. Lane, President of Cooper Institute, and conductor of

clinics in that institution. Mrs. Howe is a lady of good education, having pursued her studies in Maquon, Ill., and in Eureka College. Both she and her husband are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church. Their farm includes eighty acres of good land, with the necessary buildings and machinery, besides the other appliances in keeping with the complete rural home. They are recognized as among the intelligent people of the county, wherein they number a large circle of friends.



CHARLES B. SMITH, the well-known furniture dealer of Crab Orchard, was born in Licking County, Ohio, on the 28th of April, 1826. He is the son of Greenleaf and Lettice Smith, who were natives of Maine and Pennsylvania respectively. His parents migrated to Stark County, Ill., in 1829, settling there when almost their only neighbors were the redskins and animals native to that section of county. The nearest market was Peoria, thirty miles distant from their house, which was, however, not the Peoria of today, as may be well imagined. They were pioneers indeed, and encountered hardships and difficulties that far surpassed those of the settlers in new countries in this decade. To obtain meal they mashed corn in a horning-block, and bolted it through a buckskin sieve. From this they made their bread.

In the little pioneer school-house, a mere log cabin, with split-log seats, puncheon floor, flat-board roof and oiled-paper window, our subject obtained his schooling. It was just about enough to give him an appetite for more, and this he has continued in the endeavor to satisfy by general reading upon a large range of subjects, so that he is by no means uninformed upon general topics. He was married, on the 21st of September, 1848, to Sarah J. Snyder, whose father, William Snyder, emigrated to Stark County, Ill., from Richland County, Ohio. Our subject has become the parent of five children, three of whom are still living, viz.: Chloe M., now Mrs. Thatcher, who has four children of her own—Nellie, Fannie, Fred and

Orrie; the remaining two children of our subject are Edgar and Forrest, who reside in Hico, Hamilton Co., Tex.

The subject of our sketch came to Lincoln in the spring of 1872, and visited various parts of the State during the summer, and in October was joined by his wife. They spent the winter in Tecumseh, and settled where Crab Orchard now stands in the spring of 1883. When the town began to spring up he built the first business house, and it was occupied as a hardware store by F. M. Sharrett. Mr. Smith engaged in his present business in July of 1886. Previous to that he had been working at the carpenter's trade, which he had learned as a young man. He was well schooled in the use of the various tools employed in that business, and having a general idea of mechanics was a skilled workman. His present business has grown most favorably, and is upon a firm basis.

The character sustained by Mr. Smith in the community, and the reputation he enjoys, are quite enviable, and as a result he is held in high regard. He is a strong Republican, and a firm friend to every enterprise which promises benefit to the community. Although not a Prohibitionist he is an earnest advocate of temperance, and always has been.



ROBERT L. PENCE, editor and proprietor of the Crab Orchard *Eagle*, founded this journal in the summer of 1888, and considering the brief time since its establishment, it is already in the enjoyment of a fine patronage, especially in advertising. The circulation is rapidly increasing, the paper being an independent and newsy sheet, having little to do with politics, but being devoted to the interests of this section of Johnson County. It is essentially a paper for the people, one in which all may take an interest, and which aims to serve all alike.

The subject of this sketch was born in Henderson County, Ill., April 13, 1864. His father, Robert T. Pence, a native of Indiana, is a farmer by occupation, and at the present time a resident of Parkfield, Monterey Co., Cal. Robert, upon leaving the common schools, pursued his studies in the Western

Normal College and the Commercial Institute at Shenandoah, Iowa. He then experimented as a teacher one term, and in the winter of 1884-85 came to Dundy County, this State, and pre-empted 120 acres of land near Benkleman. In the fall of that year he took up his residence at Palisade, Hitchcock County, founded the *Palisade Journal*, conducted it eighteen months, then established the *Frenchman Valley Times* in the same place. This he sold in the summer of 1888, and changing his residence to Crab Orchard, began the publication of the *Eagle*. He evidently has a true conception of what a local journal should be, and his management of the *Eagle* is creditable to himself and satisfactory to its patrons.

Mr. Pence, while a resident of Palisade, was united in marriage with Miss Jennie Larned, March 29, 1886. Mrs. Pence was born in January, 1867, in Illinois, and is the daughter of Hiram and Abbie Larned, who were natives of Massachusetts, and are now deceased. Of her union with our subject there is one child, a son, Robert L., Jr., born April 3, 1887. Our subject and his family occupy a snug home in the central part of town, and during their brief residence here have already made hosts of friends. They are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, and favorites in the social circle.



CHARLES W. ROBERTS, a resident of Crab Orchard, is employed as clerk in McConnell's store, and is one of the most enterprising business men of this community. He came to this county in 1869, settling first in Vesta Precinct, where he carried on farming. Subsequently selling out his interests there he returned to his old haunts in Illinois, and remained there two years without engaging in any regular occupation. At the expiration of this time he once more crossed the Father of Waters and settled on a farm in Western Precinct, where he carried on agriculture until the fall of 1884.

Upon leaving the farm Mr. Roberts invested a portion of his capital in a stock of furniture, but eighteen months later abandoned this business and

for a time was engaged as clerk in the grocery store of Mr. McConnell, in Crab Orchard. He and his excellent wife are people of note in this community. Both Mr. and Mrs. Roberts give freely of their time and money to charitable and religious work, taking a leading part in Sabbath-school and temperance labors, and uniformly extending their encouragement and support to everything leading to the advancement of education, morality and temperance, he having been Superintendent of the Sabbath-school for several years, and his wife now filling that position in the Methodist Episcopal Church. There are few enterprises set on foot with which the names of this excellent couple are not connected.

Mr. Roberts is in the prime of life and the midst of his usefulness, having been born Nov. 8, 1841, at the modest home of his parents in Dearborn County, Ind. His father, Joseph Roberts, a native of Kennebec County, Me., emigrated from New England to Ohio at a very early day, and later pushed on farther westward to Indiana. There he pursued agriculture until 1856, then changed his residence to Whiteside County, Ill., where the education of Charles W. was completed in the common schools. The maiden name of the mother was Robertson. She passed away at their home in Vesta, Johnson Co., Neb., in 1872. The father died in 1879, in Vesta. The parental household consisted of five sons and six daughters, nine of whom are living, and are now distributed throughout the West.

During the progress of the late Civil War Mr. Roberts, while a resident of Illinois enlisted, Feb. 9, 1864, in Company E, 46th Illinois Infantry. He saw the smoke of battle first at Clinton, Miss., later at Mobile, Jackson Cross Roads, Champion Hills, Vicksburg, Spanish Fort, Ft. Blakely and other important engagements. He fortunately escaped wounds and capture, and on account of meritorious conduct was promoted to Corporal. After a faithful service of nearly two years, and remaining with the army until after the close of the war, he received an honorable discharge Jan. 20, 1866. Upon retiring from the service our subject returned to his old haunts in Whiteside County, Ill., where he engaged in farming on his own account until 1869. In the meantime he had been married, and

in the fall of that year came with his young wife to this county, settling in Vesta Precinct, where they continued to reside until May, 1880. In the meantime there had been born to them two children, Idella and Almeda, both of whom were taken from them by scarlet fever, and whose death was greatly mourned by their afflicted parents. They were bright little girls, aged ten and two years respectively. Desirous of removing from the scenes which constantly reminded them of their little ones, they now returned to Illinois, as we have stated.

The marriage of Charles W. Roberts and Miss Sarah H., daughter of Alexander Thompson, was celebrated at the home of the bride in Whiteside County, Ill., May 14, 1868. Mrs. Roberts was born in Prophetstown, Whiteside Co., Ill., May 5, 1850, where she received her education, and was reared to womanhood, and there taught school for two years, and has taught also at Vesta, this county, two years. Her father, Alexander G. Thompson, was a native of Missouri, but was reared in Erie County, Pa. The mother was in her girlhood Miss Almeda Gault, a native of Vermont. She became the wife of Alexander Thompson about 1841, their marriage taking place in Whiteside County, Ill. Their family included six children, of whom Mrs. Roberts was the third in order of birth. Mr. Thompson was a man of strong character and prominent in his community, being a Deacon in the Congregational Church a number of years, and subsequently an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. He spent his last years in Round Grove, Whiteside Co., Ill., passing away in March, 1883.

The elder living child of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts, Gertie T., was born April 8, 1880. The younger, Addie F., was born Dec. 16, 1882. They are bright little girls, and it is hardly necessary to say will be given those advantages in keeping with their station.

Mr. Roberts as an ex-soldier is a member in good standing of the G. A. R. Politically, he votes the straight Republican ticket. He has never been ambitious for office, although serving as Assessor for two years in Western Precinct. He is fond of music and belongs to the Crab Orchard Band. He keeps himself well posted upon current

events, and is a gentleman with whom it is pleasurable and profitable to converse. Mrs. Elizabeth (Robinson) Roberts, the mother of Mr. Roberts, was, like her husband, a native of Maine, and the parents were married July 27, 1822. Their family included eleven children, of whom Charles W. was the ninth in order of birth. Joseph Roberts departed this life at his home in Vesta, Sept. 22, 1879. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land, her death taking place May 5, 1872.



ALMERON REED stands as one of the leading stock-raisers of Lincoln Precinct, and makes a specialty of English draft horses, exhibiting some of the finest animals of this kind to be found in Southern Nebraska. He has for the successful prosecution of his calling a fine tract of land, 320 acres in extent, and fully adapted to the general purposes of agriculture, at the same time being supplied with convenient and substantial buildings. He came to this section of country in March, 1882, and was at once recognized as a valued addition to the community.

A native of Ontario County, N. Y., our subject was born Nov. 8, 1841, and is the son of Wheeler and Phila (Wimple) Reed, the former a native either of Connecticut or New York, and the mother known to have been born in Ontario County, the latter State. Both were of English ancestry, and the father of our subject traced his progenitors to one John Reed, who crossed the Atlantic in the "Mayflower" in 1620, and settled with the Pilgrims in New England.

To the parents of our subject there were born eight children, six of whom are still living, namely: Emily, of Ontario County, N. Y.; Almeron, our subject; Walter W., a resident of Otoe County; Louisa, the wife of E. Stevens, of Ontario County, N. Y.; Harmon, of Saunders County, this State, and Norman, of Ontario County, N. Y. The two deceased are Amelia and Adelia, twins, who died when six months old. Wheeler Reed was a Colonel in the New York State Militia, and was one of the representative farmers of Ontario County, N. Y., a man of sterling worth of character and highly respected.

The parents reside on the old homestead in Ontario County, N. Y.

The education of our subject, begun in the district schools, was completed in Naples Academy, Ontario County, N. Y., of which he was a student until the outbreak of the Civil War, having then six weeks to study before he could graduate. He, however, fired with youthful patriotism, left his studies to enlist in the service of his country, becoming, July 30, 1862, a member of Company K, 1st New York Mounted Rifles, and was soon thereafter promoted, first to Corporal and then to Sergeant. His regiment operated principally under the command of Gen. Butler in the Peninsula, prosecuting their warfare principally with the bushwhackers. They also fought at the battles of Harrison's Landing, Bottom's Bridge, Charles City Court House and Seven Oaks, and were in numerous other engagements and skirmishes.

Our subject finally, with some of his comrades, was transferred to the army of Gen. Grant, where they met the enemy in battle at Cold Harbor, and continued under the command of Grant until the close of the war. They had also done valiant service at Petersburg and Spottsylvania Court House, and were present at the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appomattox, being on the left flank of the army at the time of this important action of the renowned Confederate. Mr. Reed received an honorable discharge in June, 1865, and at once returned to his old haunts in New York State. In the fall following he migrated to Lenawee County, Mich., where he sojourned a period of two years, and from there changed his residence to Henry County, Ill.

In Henry County, Ill., our subject was married, Jan. 25, 1869, to Miss Nancy Howard, who only remained the companion of her husband the short period of five years, her death taking place at their home in Henry County in May, 1874. Mr. Reed came to Nebraska in March, 1882, and settled on the land which he now owns and occupies the year following. He was married a second time, Feb. 20, 1884, to Miss Marian Williams, who was born in the Province of Quebec, Sept. 20, 1851. The parents of this lady were Winslow and Lucinda (Matthew) Williams, the father a native of Vermont, and the mother of New York State. They were of

Welsh and English ancestry respectively, and became the parents of a large family of children, of whom the following survive, namely: James N., a resident of Massachusetts; Ulysses, of Montana; Lafayette, of Tennessee; John, of Illinois; Charles, of this county; Mary J., Mrs. Calvin Johnson, of Illinois; Adelaide, Mrs. John Hastie, of Nemaha County; Henry, of the same; Amasa, of Omaha; Marian and Frederick, also residents of this State; Lillian, the wife of William Ravenscroft, of this county; and Isolina, Mrs. A. Miller, of Talmage, Neb.

To Mr. and Mrs. Reed there have been born two bright and interesting children: Clarence W., July 22, 1885, and Howard O., Feb. 3, 1888. Mr. Reed is a member in good standing of the Congregational Church, and both he and his excellent wife occupy a high position socially. He is a man of sterling worth and integrity, one who by his upright life and systematic manner of doing business has fully established himself in the esteem and confidence of those around him.



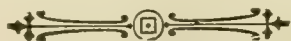
JOHN D. CANNELL, Postmaster at Crab Orchard, and senior member of the firm of Cannell Bros., dealers in hardware, belongs to the younger element of this place, and was born Sept. 17, 1861. His native place was Rockford, Winnebago Co., Ill., where he spent the first seven years of his life. Thence the family removed to a farm in the same county, where the parents still live. They are John and Jane (Kiely) Cannell, the father a native of the Isle of Man, and the mother of Ireland, and people held in the highest respect in their community.

Our subject is a very well educated gentleman, having pursued his studies in Prof. Lownsbury's Academy at Rockford, and Souder's Business College in Chicago. He commenced teaching at the age of eighteen years, and followed this profession five years in Winnebago County, being in the meantime one of the teachers in Prof. Lownsbury's Academy. He crossed the Mississippi in March, 1885, and soon afterward with his brother established himself in his present business. They carry

a full line of the articles pertaining to their trade, including heavy and shelf hardware, stoves and kitchen furniture, having a capital stock of \$3,500, and sales aggregating \$14,000 annually. Their business is steadily on the increase, and will in time become one of the important features of the trade in this county.

Mr. Cannell was married, Sept. 28, 1887, in Rockford, to Miss Lizzie, daughter of Dennis Reardon, a prominent member of the Catholic Church at Rockford, Ill. Of this union there is one child, a daughter, born Dec. 12, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Cannell occupy a snug home in the western part of town, and number their friends among its most cultivated people. The well-known energy of the Cannell Bros. is the promise of prosperity in the future, and for which they have the best wishes of their friends and acquaintances in this vicinity.

William D. Cannell, the brother of our subject, and his junior by nearly five years, was born in Rockford, Ill., Jan. 6, 1866. There also he received his education, and was mostly occupied when not in school at farming. He came to this county in August, 1886, and although only twenty-three years of age has already attracted attention on account of his business capabilities, which are considered a guarantee of success in the future. The firm ranks among the leading business men of the place, their transactions being conducted in that straightforward manner, and promptness in meeting their obligations, which is ever a safe passport to the confidence and respect of the community.



BENJAMIN F. DORSEY, who is a representative of one of the oldest and most respected families of Center Precinct, in Johnson County, was born in Kentucky on the 11th of April, 1820. When a mere boy his parents went to Southeastern Indiana, and located near Lawrenceburg. He is the son of John W. and Jane (Connor) Dorsey. Their life in Indiana was continued until 1857, when they moved, and came to this county and settled near Helena. They

had been living there but a few years when a removal was made to Nebraska City, where the father died in 1862, aged seventy-six years. After that event the mother of our subject removed to Brownville, thence to Beatrice, where she died about 1873, aged seventy-three years.

The subject of our sketch was reared on the old home farm in Indiana. When a young man he learned the trade of carpenter and joiner, and in 1840 went to the city of Indianapolis and there followed the same. From that time until 1858 he was largely occupied with various contracts, several of them of magnitude, as his work gave so much satisfaction as to recommend itself.

To most there comes a time when the desire for companionship presses, and makes its voice heard. It so occurred in the history of our subject, with the result that at Indianapolis, Aug. 25, 1844, he was united in marriage with Miss Esther Ramsey. They have become the parents of five children, four of whom were born in Indianapolis, one of them in Nebraska, where they removed as above mentioned.

Our subject resided at Brownville until 1865, then came to Johnson County, locating near Helena, where he staid for four years, removing thence to where he now lives, on section 25. When he came here the farm was entirely unimproved, and was in fact undistinguishable from the virgin prairie around. Now all is changed, the transformation is complete; his barns, stabling, granary and other farm buildings are well built and adapted especially to their purposes. His fields, orchards and groves cannot fail to impress the visitor as being in excellent condition, while the house is pleasant and commodious.

Mr. Dorsey was elected as a Representative of this county in 1878, and served one term as State Senator. He was Postmaster at Helena for a number of years while living there. There were but two mails per week at that office, and many times not more than half a dozen letters and as many papers in the pouch, so that the duties were not arduous, difficult or exhausting. The children of our subject are all married excepting George, who makes his home with his parents.

Mrs. Dorsey is a member of the Presbyterian

Church at Helena, and has been affiliated with that communion since her girlhood. Every member of this family is strongly attached to the Republican party, and actively engaged whenever occasion demands in the interests of the same.

George Dorsey, the youngest son of our subject, was born in Indianapolis, Dec. 19, 1853. He was educated in the common schools, and afterward was engaged upon the farm. He is energetic as a business man, and of strictest integrity. He is at present selling musical instruments, and carries a stock of pianos and organs. This business he runs in connection with his farming, and has been very prosperous.

PITTS H. HOPKINS. The name of this gentleman is widely and favorably known throughout the city of Tecumseh and vicinity. As one of its prominent business men, he is largely interested in real estate, and owns a fine home on the corner of Broadway and Fifth street, besides the Queen City Hotel, which he has recently remodeled and enlarged. This is now probably the largest and best equipped house of its kind in the city. In former years Mr. H. was extensively interested in stock-farming, and still retains possession of a ranch of 1,000 acres, a part of which he purchased in 1867, and added to in 1881 and 1882. Upon this there are ample improvements, most of them effected solely by the industry and enterprise of the present proprietor. In addition to his cattle ranch he owns 180 acres of valuable land adjoining the city of Tecumseh on the north.

In the summer of 1867 Mr. Hopkins came to this county and Pawnee and purchased for Mr. Hunt, of Illinois, 2,000 acres of land, at the same time entering quite a large body of land for himself and others, and in 1881, in connection with Mr. Hunt, established a ranch, which they operated three or four years. Mr. Hopkins purchased Mr. Hunt's interest in the stock, and in the meantime put up a fine residence and a barn, besides sheds sufficient for the accommodation of 100 head of cattle. Later he added two more dwelling-houses. Besides the care of his own cattle, he took cattle from other parties to

pasture, and from these joint interests realized a handsome income. Until a year ago he kept a herd of from 300 to 400 head, then began selling off, and a considerable portion of the land is now devoted to general agriculture, although Mr. Hopkins still keeps quite a number of cattle and other stock. Mr. Hopkins has planted five acres of forest trees and has over 400 apple trees, half of which are now bearing fruit, and are in a flourishing condition. This farm lies about fifteen miles southwest of Tecumseh.

The earliest recollections of our subject are of the modest home in the township of Sparta, Livingston Co., N. Y., where his birth took place March 21, 1833. In 1840, when he was a little lad of seven years, his parents removed to Marshall County, Ill., where he attended the district schools. He completed his education in an academy at Elmwood, and developed into a teacher. He was occupied in this capacity two years, then began dealing in real estate in earnest. He had transacted considerable business in this line while quite a youth and before leaving school. At Dixon he gained a good knowledge of surveying.

In April, 1854, Mr. Hopkins crossed the Father of Waters into Marshall County, Iowa, and opening an office in Marshalltown began dealing in real estate, entering over 90,000 acres of land for Eastern parties during the season of 1855. There also he officiated as a pedagogue, and was master of the first public school taught in Marshalltown, during the winter of 1855 and to 1857. He remained in that locality a period of five years, and realized from his real-estate transactions a good income.

Our subject at the expiration of this time returned to Elmwood, Ill., where he continued his operations as a real-estate dealer, exchanging in some instances Iowa land for Illinois farms. In 1867 he came to Nebraska, entered his land in Johnson County, and operated in lands in Pawnee and Gage Counties. Eventually he bought fifty-two quarter-sections which he sold to Eastern parties, and was a number of years buying and selling at a lively rate, indeed, up to 1880. That year he turned his attention to live stock. He was in the meantime in the employ of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy and the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad Companies, in

encouraging excursions to the farther West, and subsequently operated with the Rock Island road in the same manner.

Mr. Hopkins cast his first Presidential vote for Fremont, and has always been a staunch supporter of Republican principles. He was at one time Deputy Sheriff of Marshall County, Iowa, and Notary Public. In this county he has been a member of the School Board. He has, however, no great desire for official honors, while at the same time willing to serve the people when he can do so in a manner calculated to advance their interests.

Thirty-two years ago, on the 13th of November, 1856, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Delia M. Robins, of Rosefield, Peoria Co., Ill. This union resulted in the birth of three children, one of whom, Orlo Anson, died at the age of fifteen years, in Elmwood, Ill.; Lewis R. is in Peoria County, Ill.; the daughter, Lucy Ethel, is at home with her parents. She is well educated. Mrs. Hopkins was born in Bristol, Conn., May 20, 1833, and is the daughter of Henry and Eliza (Hart) Robins, who were natives of Connecticut and New York respectively. When quite young she moved with her parents to Illinois, they settling on land in Rosefield, Peoria County, where she lived with them until her marriage. Later they removed to Elmwood. The mother died about 1854. Mr. Robins survived his wife for a period of twenty years, his death taking place in July, 1875. He was born at Rocky Hill, Conn., in March, 1801, where he lived until reaching manhood, then took up his residence in Bristol, where all his children were born. In 1840 he removed with his family to Rosefield, Ill., where he purchased land and carried on farming in connection with his trade, that of a carpenter. His first wife died in 1854, and he was subsequently married again. Of this last union there was one child, a son, Charles S. He and his first wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but later he identified himself with the Congregationalists.

Henry Hopkins, the father of our subject, was born in Lowell, Mass., March 16, 1800. He moved from there when a young man of eighteen or twenty years to Livingston County, N. Y., where he worked as a carpenter, and on the 30th of Sep-

tember, 1830, was married to Miss Esther Collar. They became the parents of eight children, only four of whom lived to mature years. He worked at his trade until 1840, then moved to Marshall County, Ill., where he took up land and carried on farming in connection with carpentering. He sold out in 1848 and returned as far as Lamoille, Bureau Co., Ill., where he purchased town property and contracted to lay a plank road from Lamoille to Peru. With this end in view he built a sawmill, manufactured his own plank for the road, and was employed three years fulfilling his contract. At the expiration of this time, on account of failing health, he sold the mill and retired from active business. In the fall of 1856 he went up into Minnesota, and died at Faribault in Rice County, in the fall of 1858. The wife and mother had entered upon her rest at their home in Lamoille, on the 19th of August, 1848.

The parents of our subject were most excellent and worthy people, and members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The paternal grandfather, Pitts Hopkins, was a native of Massachusetts, where he spent his entire life engaged in agricultural pursuits. At the time of the mother's death, in 1848, occurred the death also of two sisters and a brother, this terrible affliction falling upon the survivors within a period of six weeks. All the others, with the exception of the father, were likewise at the time very ill.



JULIUS L. YOUNG, Clerk of Johnson County, is a resident of Nemaha Precinct, and was formerly largely interested in grain and agricultural implements. He represents a fine property in this part of the county, including 700 acres of land, stocked with a goodly assortment of cattle and horses. Of this he became the possessor in 1883, when it was in its primitive condition. The transformation which he has effected during a period of five years is really marvelous, as now may be seen all the accompaniments of the model country estate, a fine residence with convenient out-buildings, the fields laid off

with neat and substantial fences, and everything about the premises indicating the exercise of industry and ample means. Without question this is one of the leading stock farms of Johnson County, and in addition is also one of its most attractive homesteads.

Mr. Young was elected to the office of County Clerk Nov. 2, 1885, and re-elected in the fall of 1887. This fact is sufficient indication of the manner in which he has discharged his responsible duties. His integrity is unquestioned, and both in social and business circles he occupies the position of the trusted citizen and official.

A native of Mercer County, Pa., Mr. Young was born Dec. 31, 1842, and when a lad ten years of age accompanied his parents to Illinois, they settling on a farm near Galena, in Jo Daviess County. After emerging from the common school, Julius L. attended Rock River Seminary, at Mt. Morris, where he completed his studies. Not long afterward, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted Sept. 23, 1861, with the Fremont Rangers, in an independent battalion formed in St. Louis, Mo. He engaged in active fighting at Wood's Fork, Harts-ville, Chalk Bluff, Bayou Metoe and Little Rock, Ark., and did considerable scouting west of the Mississippi under the command of Gen. Davison. In his capacity as a Union soldier he traveled over considerable ground in Missouri, Arkansas and Louisiana, and after a service of three years and four months received an honorable discharge and was mustered out Dec. 31, 1864. He was never wounded in battle but suffered his full share from privation and hardship, together with a broken shoulder, caused by a wounded horse falling upon him at Little Rock, Ark.

After retiring from the service Mr. Young came directly to Nebraska and purchased 160 acres of land in Todd Creek Precinct, this county. Here he effected considerable improvement and lived until 1868, when he changed his residence to Elk Creek, selling his farm and engaging in the grain business. In the meantime he was Secretary of the Grange Shipping Association until his election to the office of County Clerk. He also dealt in agricultural implements, doing an extensive business and commanding a lucrative patronage. He put up

a fine store building and established the first and only elevator at Elk Creek, and handles from 400 to 600 carloads of grain annually.

On the 4th of June, 1883, Mr. Young purchased the south half of section 2, in township 3, range 11, Pawnee County, to which he subsequently added, until his landed possessions assumed the present fine proportions of 700 acres. He usually keeps about 100 head of cattle, besides horses, mules and swine. In addition to his farming interests there are few leading enterprises in which he has not taken an active part, and for a period of three years he officiated as Secretary of the Board of Trade, besides holding other positions of trust and responsibility. Prior to the war, and while a resident of Galena, he made the acquaintance of him who was afterward Gen. Grant, an episode in his life which he looks back upon with great satisfaction. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity about 1870; is at present connected with the Blue Lodge, Furnas Chapter No. 9, and Mt. Horeb Commandery No. 10. He is also a K. of P. and a member of the G. A. R. In all of these he holds office and has been a prominent and efficient worker.

Miss Caroline S. Matson, of Jo Daviess County, Ill., became the wife of our subject March 26, 1871. Of this union there have been born seven children. Five are now living, namely: Victor T., Clarence L., Ernest E., Edith W. and Paul Q. Mrs. Young was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., and is the daughter of A. C. and Mary (Jagger) Matson, who were natives of New York and England, and are still living, being residents of Cloud County, Kan. Mr. Matson was a farmer by occupation, and the parental family consisted of six children. Mrs. Young acquired a common-school education and remained with her parents until her marriage. John T. Young, the father of our subject, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in 1804. He remained a resident of his native State until fifty years of age, then moving to Illinois with his family, purchased a farm in Jo Daviess County, where he spent the remainder of his life, building up a beautiful home and a fine property, including 227 acres of land with first-class improvements.

He had married in early manhood Miss Nancy J. Allison, a native of his own county in Pennsyl-

vania, and to them were born ten children, nine of whom, seven sons and two daughters, lived to mature years. One son was killed in battle at Chickamauga when fifteen years old. Six of the sons served as Union soldiers during the late Civil War. The parents, while residents of Pennsylvania, were connected with the Presbyterian Church, but after coming to the West identified themselves with the Methodists. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Young are being carefully reared and educated in a manner befitting their station and surroundings.

LEWIS G. HALL. This honored pioneer of Johnson County looked upon Nebraska thirteen years before it had been admitted into the Union as a State, first crossing the Father of Waters in August, 1854. He was then a youth of nineteen years, and made the journey from Bureau County, Ill., with his parents, crossing the Missouri River on a flatboat, at what is now the flourishing town of Peru, but what was then a collection of wooden structures designated as houses. The place was then called Mt. Vernon.

The father of our subject in making his way to Nebraska Territory, came with the determination to stay, and persevered through every difficulty. These he realized were many and great, but he possessed the disposition which admitted no such word as "fail." He settled with his family on a tract of land lying along Honey Creek, two miles south of the present town of Peru, and there Lewis G. remained with his parents until his marriage. To go back to the early life of our subject, we find that he was born Nov. 14, 1835, in Bureau County, Ill., and received the education common to the youth of that time and place. After marriage he settled with his young wife in sight of a little town called London, in this county, where he had pre-empted 160 acres of raw prairie land. Here the young people began their wedded life, and lived in true pioneer style for a period of twelve years. They labored industriously early and late, and Mr. Hall succeeded in making good improvements, setting out a fine grove of forest trees with an orchard and the smaller fruits, laying fences and bringing the

land to a fine state of cultivation. Indians were quite plentiful, but gave the pioneers little trouble or apprehension. Their lives passed quietly and uneventfully until the outbreak of the Civil War, when Mr. and Mrs. Hall were the parents of three children. Notwithstanding his home ties, our subject considered it his duty to enlist in defense of his country, and on the 1st of November, 1862, became a member of Company F, 2d Nebraska Cavalry. This regiment was assigned mostly to duty on the frontier, and engaged principally in Indian warfare. Mr. H. enlisting only for a year, received his honorable discharge at the expiration of this time, and returned home.

In the fall of 1866 our subject concluded to change his location, and accordingly selling out, moved to Arago, Richardson County, where he engaged in milling and lumbering, and put up one of the first flouring-mills in that region. He resided there three years, then located in the western part of Nemaha County, engaging in milling and farming combined. This experiment proved very successful, and he remained there until becoming a resident of Johnson County in the fall of 1876, and settling at Butler's Mills, where he still prosecuted the business above mentioned, and lived until purchasing, in the fall of 1881, the land constituting his present farm. It bore little resemblance then to its present condition, being a tract of uncultivated prairie without a shrub or a building.

Mr. Hall, when purchasing this land, had become fully accustomed to pioneer scenes and experiences, and entered with courage upon the task of its subjugation. He now has a model homestead with tasteful and convenient buildings, a fine large frame residence set in the midst of shrubbery and groves, a thriving apple orchard, and the smaller fruits in abundance. Each year finds some new embellishment adding to the attractiveness and value of the property. Mr. Hall of late years has given his attention largely to the breeding of fine stock, including half-grade cattle, Hambletonian horses and Poland-China swine. In the spring of 1888 Mr. Hall, deciding that he had contributed his quota toward the development of the agricultural interests of Johnson County, retired from active labor, and moving into Elk Creek, invested a portion of

his capital in agricultural implements. His two sons, William H. and John, are now operating the farm. The former married Miss Fidelia Puryear, of Johnson County, Neb.

Mr. Hall is a staunch supporter of Republican principles, and, with his excellent wife, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church in which he has officiated as Class-Leader and Superintendent of the Sunday-school for many years. The high character of the man is known and recognized throughout the county, with whose business and agricultural interests he has been closely identified for a long period. Liberal-minded and public-spirited, he has ever been foremost in those projects tending to elevate the people.

Mrs. Johanna (Horn) Hall, was born in Cass County, Ill., Aug. 21, 1839, and is the daughter of Joel and Emily Horn, who lived there until about 1851. Thence they removed first to Missouri, and later to Nebraska. Mr. Horn was one of the pioneer farmers of this State, and died in Missouri when about seventy years of age. The wife and mother passed away about 1862.

John W. Hall, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky in 1808, and when quite young emigrated first to Indiana and then to Illinois, settling in the latter State near Galena with his parents. He occupied himself as a teamster in the lead mines, and the family lived there until the Indian outbreak, when they started eastward, intent upon seeking a place of greater safety. They had reached LaSalle County, the home of a friend, Mr. Davis, when the Indians overtook them and massacred all in the house with the exception of Mr. Hall and two of his sisters. They were made prisoners, and two weeks later the sisters were sold to another tribe. John W. made his escape with two brothers, and finally reached Bureau County, Ill., where he settled and lived until 1851. The sisters were sold to another tribe of Indians, who returned them to their friends. Mr. Hall was married to Miss Mary L. Swan, and they became the parents of nine children, seven of whom lived to maturity. As soon as Nebraska Territory was opened up to settlement, they came in and located near the present site of Peru, where Grandfather Hall continued to reside until about two years before his death. He then

removed to Nebraska City, where he spent his last days in retirement. He was a man of deep piety, and a local preacher of considerable repute, working early and late in the Master's vineyard, and being a devout member of the Methodist Church. He carried on farming extensively, and acquired a good property. Grandmother Hall was a most efficient helpmate to her husband, sympathizing with him in the Christian work. She was a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of William Swan, who emigrated to Illinois during its pioneer days.

Franklin L. Hall, the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Caroline L. Waidley, and is carrying on farming in Todd Creek Precinct; he is the father of three children. Emma F. is the wife of Granville C. Brittain, a farmer of Todd Creek Precinct, and the mother of four children; W. H. Hall was married to Miss Fidelia Puryear, and they have one child, Edgar. The other children of Mr. Hall continue under the home roof, and have been given the training and education suitable to their circumstances and position in life.



GEORGE GOERING. Among the farmers and stock-raisers of Lincoln Precinct few are more practical or prosperous than the subject of this sketch, whose farm is situated on section 12, township 5 north, range 12 east. He was born in Germany on the 1st of April, 1854, and is the son of George and Barbara Goering. His father is deceased; his mother resides in Illinois. He is the third son of four boys, and one girl born to his parents. His education, which was obtained in the schools of his native country, is fairly complete, and so far as it went was thorough.

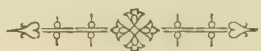
Our subject was about eleven years of age when his parents emigrated to this country. The ocean passage extended over fourteen days and they landed in New York City, from whence the family proceeded immediately to Bureau County, Ill., where the father died in 1882. Besides our subject there are four children of Mr. and Mrs. Goering living, viz: Jacob, still residing in Bureau County, Ill.; Henry, of Platte County, Neb.;

Sibella, the wife of Louis Kumpf, of Bureau County, Ill., and Phillip, who resides in the same county.

From early childhood our subject was brought up on a farm, and as early as was possible was given such tasks to perform as were within his power, and as the months and years passed by these were insensibly increased, until he was abundantly capable of taking any part of such work and performing it properly, or indeed, to undertake the entire management of a farm.

On the 25th of January, 1877, Mr. Goering was joined in matrimony with Katie Wunder, by whom he has become the parent of six children, whose names are given as follows: Henry, George, Frederick, Emma, John and Louie. Mrs. Goering was born in Illinois, May 20, 1859, and is the daughter of Adam and Elizabeth Wunder, of Bureau County, Ill., and natives of Germany.

Our subject is the owner of 160 acres of good land, which he has brought to a high state of cultivation. He takes rank among the best farmers in the precinct, and may be justly proud of the success that has attended him, for he has effected what has been done almost entirely minus the usual aids given by parents and others, and is truly a self-made man. In politics he is a Democrat, clearly understanding and fully appreciating the liberties, privileges and government of his adopted country. He is identified with the Evangelical Church, as were also his parents, while his wife is a member of the Lutheran Church. They are much esteemed members of society, and are recognized as capable and valuable members of the community.



JOSHUA J. VETTER. Among the names of the early pioneers of Nebraska will be found that of the gentleman whose life is herein briefly sketched. He is the owner of an excellent farm, comprising eighty acres of well-tilled, arable land upon section 10 of Nemaha Precinct; this he works along the line of general farming and stock-raising. In 1876, when he settled thereon, it was raw prairie, and he has brought it to its present

state of cultivation by his continued assiduous, intelligent effort. Near his dwelling he has set out a fine orchard, containing over 150 apple trees, besides various other fruits, and also has some five acres of thrifty, well-developed forest trees. The grade of cattle chiefly engaging the attention of our subject as most valuable is the Polled-Angus.

When Mr. Vetter first came to the district he settled south of the town, living there for two years. In 1873 he went to Fillmore County and took up a homestead claim, which he kept until he came to this precinct, where he has made his residence continuously from that time. He has long held the position of school officer, and being deeply interested in educational matters has so attended to the various duties of the office as to win the admiration and esteem of the community. He is an enthusiastic member of the G. A. R.

Berrien County, Mich., is the place of the nativity of the subject of this writing. He was ushered into life on the 5th of April, 1840, and continued to live in his native county until 1871. In the common schools of his native place he received a good practical English education, the course of study covering all the branches usually studied at the time. In 1861 he enlisted in defense of the old flag, on the 15th of September of that year becoming a member of Company K, of the 12th Michigan Infantry. He went through the following engagements, viz: Shiloh, Iuka, Middleburg, Tenn., Natchez, Vicksburg, Little Rock, Ark., besides an endless number of lesser engagements and skirmishes. He was mustered out at Little Rock on the 4th of May, 1865, and returned to Michigan.

Mr. Vetter celebrated the 4th of July of the year 1867 in right royal style, being united with Miss Sarah A. Hazen, of Buchanan, Berrien Co., Mich., in the bands of wedlock. Of this union four children have been born. Their names are recorded as follows: Dora B., Arthur W., Effa Blanche and Myrtle O. Dora is now Mrs. George Thomas, of Firth, and is the mother of one child, to whom has been given the name Floyd. Mrs. Vetter is the daughter of Ezra Hazen, and was born on the 7th of August, 1850, at Buchanan, making her home with her parents until the auspicious Fourth of

July when she united her life with that of our subject. Her father was a native of the Buckeye State, who in the early days of Michigan's settlement migrated thither. He was the father of thirteen children, of whom his daughter Sarah was the youngest.

Jacob Vetter, the father of our subject, was born in Steucot, Wurtemberg, Germany, in the year 1799; there he lived until after his marriage with Miss Rachael Waggoner. Upon coming to America he staid for a short period in Philadelphia, and then removed to Michigan and later to Chicago, Ill., when it was a small town. In that vicinity he took up forty acres of land. Upon this land is now erected the well-known Union Depot, which is not only the finest in the city, but will compare most favorably with any depot in metropolitan centers in the country. Owing to sickness he determined to return to Michigan, where he owned a farm of some 160 acres, all well improved, situated about fifteen miles from St. Joseph, and also land where Ann Arbor now stands. He died in 1854, being fifty-five years of age. His wife departed this life at St. Joseph in the year 1845.

The subject of our sketch is a prominent citizen and a very ardent supporter of the Republican party, and enjoys the respect and confidence of the community, and is one of the most successful and practical farmers in the county.



DAVID C. CONKLIN, of Helena Precinct, is meeting with fair success as a farmer and stock-raiser, and is operating 160 acres of good land occupying the southwest quarter of section 32. He is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the term, having been entirely dependent upon his own resources since starting out for himself in life, and in the hand-to-hand struggle with the elements of the world has made a fair record, meeting with a goodly measure of success. A native of the Keystone State, he was born in Susquehanna County, July 1, 1827, and is a son of Leonard and Margaret (Weymer) Conklin, who were born in Orange County, N. Y. The parental household of our subject included a family of six children, of whom the following survive, namely:

David C., our subject, was the eldest; Esther, the wife of Lemuel Vangelder, of Wayne County, Pa.; Thomas, a resident of Pawnee County, this State; and Rebecca, the wife of John Resseque, living in Wayne County, Pa. The parents spent their last years in Pennsylvania, and the father followed farming all his life.

Mr. Conklin was reared to manhood in his native State, and received such education as was afforded the youth of his day under a school system vastly inferior to that of the present time. He was trained to habits of industry from his youth up, and shortly before reaching the twenty-fifth year of his age began making arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own. The most important event leading to this end was his marriage, which occurred Jan. 10, 1852, the maiden of his choice being Miss Almeda Dickey, who was born Feb. 27, 1833, in Susquehanna County, and reared not far from the home of her husband. Her parents, Walter and Sally (Resseque) Dickey, were natives of Connecticut, and the father a farmer by occupation. They spent their last years in Pennsylvania.

Mr. and Mrs. Conklin commenced the journey of life together in a modest home in Pennsylvania, where our subject commenced farming. His plans, however, were broken in upon by the outbreak of the Rebellion, and in September, 1862, laying aside his personal plans and interests, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company A, 137th Pennsylvania Infantry, becoming a part of what was designated as the Fatigue Corps. He was for a time under the command of Gen. Hancock, and fought at Fredericksburg and Antietam, besides meeting the enemy in other minor engagements and skirmishes. His regiment operated mostly in Maryland and Virginia. Mr. C. served six months, and received his honorable discharge in February, 1863.

After retiring from the army Mr. Conklin resumed farming in Wayne County, Pa., where he resided for a time, then changed his residence to Luzerne County. In the latter he entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, with which he was connected for a period of seven years, attending mostly in the shipping department. He was thus occupied until the fall of 1879, then, with a desire to see something of the Great West, crossed

the Mississippi, and coming to this county, located first in Nemaha Precinct. Thence he removed in the spring of 1883 to his present farm. This comprises 160 acres of good land in a highly productive condition, and which, under the careful management of its present proprietor, yields bountifully the rich products of Southern Nebraska. With the assistance of his faithful and industrious wife he has accumulated a comfortable property, with something for a rainy day and his declining years. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and is a member in good standing of the Christian Church. A man quiet and unostentatious in his demeanor, he is remarkable chiefly as a peaceful and law-abiding citizen, who gives his support to the cause of religion and education, and in all respects deserves the appellation of an honest man and a good citizen.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born ten children, three of whom—Mary, Orin and George—died at a tender age. Of the survivors the record is as follows: Lovisa is the wife of John Daugherty, a resident of Scranton, Pa.; Nina, Mrs. C. H. Pickering, lives in Tecumseh, this county; Melissa married Edwin Mills, and together with her brother William, resides in Denver, Col.; Friend, Floyd and Ella are at home with their parents.

JUDGE JOSEPH W. BUFFUM. The subject of this biography is widely and favorably known throughout this county as one of its most prominent and useful citizens. He is a lifelong agriculturist, but of late years has been giving his attention to live stock, carrying on his operations at a beautiful farm and homestead of 160 acres, on section 17 in Todd Creek Precinct.

A native of Ashtabula County, Ohio, our subject was born May 9, 1834, and when three years of age went with his parents to Knox County, Ill. They settled upon a tract of land, where the father engaged in farming, and where were spent the boyhood and youth of Joseph W., during which time he acquired a good practical education, and became familiar with the various employments of rural life.

The years of young Buffum were thus spent in a

comparatively uneventful manner until the notes of civil war startled the country, and its young men began by hundreds to offer their services in defense of the Union. On the 11th of August, 1862, our subject enlisted in Company G, 83d Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. He first saw the smoke of battle at Ft. Donelson, and was thereafter engaged in many of the important battles of the war, experiencing many hairbreadth escapes, and at Clarksville, Tenn., was wounded in the left leg, and made a cripple for life. He has never been able to walk since that time as other men, but succeeded in getting around slowly by the aid of crutches, and for the past eight or nine years has been able to abandon their use. This occurred in the spring of 1865. Mr. Buffum was confined at Ft. Bruce, and after the close of the conflict received his honorable discharge at Chicago, Ill., in July, 1865, and was mustered out of the service. His army experience was similar to that of thousands, and has been recorded in a history that will never grow old to the American people.

After being relegated to the ranks of civil life Mr. Buffum returned to his old home in Knox County, Ill., for a brief period, and entered his father's store in Yates City, where, however, he remained only a short time, until starting for the West. He left the Prairie State on the 1st of April, 1868, and reached Nebraska twenty days later, settling in Tecumseh, where he resided for about twelve years. While residing there he improved the land of which he had become owner before leaving Illinois. Upon this there had been no attempt at improvement, and Mr. Buffum pursued thereafter the course common to the Nebraska pioneer, battling with the difficulties of a distant market, imperfect farm implements, and the various other drawbacks which beset the new settler. He was possessed, however, of the sturdy courage and perseverance incident to the men of those times, and allowed nothing to deter him from his purpose of building up a homestead on the soil of Nebraska. After putting in his first crops he began planting shade and fruit trees, erecting the buildings most urgently needed, put out several acres of forest trees and a large peach or-



RESIDENCE OF DANIEL RICHARDSON, SEC. 16. WESTERN PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF CHARLES WILKINSON, SEC. 24. MAPLE GROVE PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF L. A. SHARRETT, SEC. 30 (4. 13) LINCOLN PRECINCT.

chard, and otherwise increased the value and beauty of his property. Upon this farm, however, he did not live, making his home in Tecumseh, and in addition to the supervision of his farming operations, was engaged four years in the livery business. Later he took up merchandising, in which he was engaged three years. He sold this farm in the fall of 1880, and purchased his present homestead the year following.

This latter property had undergone considerable improvements, but Mr. Buffum has greatly added to its value by the erection of a large and handsome residence, which, with its surroundings, constitutes one of the most attractive pictures in the landscape of this region. Here he has about eight acres of full grown forest trees, a fine apple orchard and trees of the smaller fruits. His live stock includes about seventy-five head of choice Short-horn cattle, but he is working his way toward the breeding of road horses, having some fine and valuable specimens of Hambletonians. In the care and feeding of his stock Mr. Buffum has gathered around him all the conveniences, having ample stabling, watering troughs, etc.

In addition to his extensive farming interests Judge Buffum has always been a prominent man in public affairs, filling many positions of trust and responsibility. He was elected to the office of County Judge in the fall of 1873, and subsequently was elected County Treasurer, serving his full term with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. Democratic in politics, the fact that he holds his office in a Republican stronghold is indicative of the estimation in which he is held by the people of the county. Almost from the time of his coming here he has been an incumbent of the local offices, a member of the School Board, etc.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage with Miss Sarah A. Mills, which was celebrated at the home of the bride in Knox County, Ill., Feb. 28, 1856. Of this union there have been born seven children, five of whom are living, namely: Esther Estelle, Clara Belle, Martha Lodema, Lou and Josephine. With the exception of the eldest daughter they are all at home with their parents. Esther E. is the

wife of Mr. J. E. Davis, of Grafton, Neb., and the mother of one child, a daughter, Carrie L. The children of our subject have been given a thorough education, and are bright and intelligent, doing honor to their ancestry and parental training.

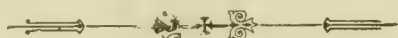
Mrs. Sarah A. (Mills) Buffum was born near Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 17, 1838, and lived there until reaching womanhood. She then removed to Illinois with her parents. The latter were John and Tempa (Hatch) Mills, and the father was a native of Vermont, and a farmer by occupation. He spent his last years in Knox County, Ill., dying in 1858, at the advanced age of sixty-three years. The mother had passed away when her daughter Sarah A. was but a child, in Madison County, Ohio.

Stephen Smith Buffum, the father of our subject, was born in Vermont, Oct. 22, 1802. He left the Green Mountain State early in life, migrating to New York, and when about fifteen or sixteen years old sought the Far West. Ashtabula County, Ohio, at that time came under this description, and young Buffum, taking up a tract of land which was covered with timber, felled the trees and built up for himself a good homestead. He married Miss Esther Mann, of Ashtabula County, and they became the parents of six sons and two daughters, seven of whom lived to mature years. In 1836 he left Ohio, and settled among the pioneers of Knox County, Ill., being the third family in Salem Township. There again he proceeded as before, eliminating a homestead from the wilderness, although he had prairie land to work upon instead of timber. His first purchase was 160 acres, to which he subsequently added a like amount, becoming owner of half a section. Here he lived and labored until quite well advanced in years, then, in 1860, sold out and removed to Yates City, where he engaged first in the grain trade and later in general merchandising. He was a hale, hearty and intelligent old gentleman, and died in February, 1871, at the age of about sixty-nine years.

Mrs. Esther (Mann) Buffum died in October, 1845, and the father of our subject was then married to Miss Diantha L. Atwood, who is now in Yates City, Ill. He was prominent in local affairs in Illinois, holding the offices of Supervisor and

Justice of the Peace for many years, and in the Masonic fraternity was a Knight Templar, high in the order. Religiously, he was a Universalist in belief during the later years of his life, although when in Ohio he attended the Episcopal Church, walking six miles to and from the house of worship.

The grandfather of our subject, also Stephen Buffum by name, was a native of Vermont, and settled in Fulton County, Ill., fully as early if not earlier than 1830. He was married in Vermont, and reared a large family. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that region, and acquired a good property. He spent his last days among his children, and had a sufficient income to maintain him comfortably. His death took place between 1850 and 1860, after he had reached the advanced age of eighty-four years. He served with one of his sons in the Black Hawk War.



JAMES T. JONES. A goodly proportion of the live stock which finds its way to the market at Tecumseh is the product of this county, and Lincoln Precinct is amply represented in this industry. To this the subject of this sketch has turned his attention considerably for the last eight years, finding it perhaps more satisfactory than mixed agriculture, although he has a fine tract of land which yields bountifully the products of Southern Nebraska. This is pleasantly located on section 19, and comprises 240 acres which, however, does not embrace his entire real estate, as he has a whole section in Nemaha County.

Mr. Jones may most properly be classed among the self-made men of Johnson County, as he was thrown upon his own resources early in life, and his accumulations have been the result of his industry and perseverance, aided by one of the most excellent of wives. To this lady Mr. Jones gives due recognition, and acknowledges that she has been his most efficient helpmate in the accumulation of their property. Mr. Jones was born in Washington County, Pa., July 24, 1846, and is the son of William and Margaret K. (West) Jones, who were natives of the same. His ancestors on both sides of the house were originally from Maryland, whence

they emigrated to Pennsylvania during its early settlement. The parental family included four children, of whom but three are living, namely: Emma J., the wife of David McDonough, of Henry, Ill.; Mary D., the wife of Robert McDonough, of the same place, and our subject. Maria A. died when about two years of age.

The parents of our subject when James T. was a lad of seven years emigrated from the Keystone State to Peoria County, Ill., and six months later to Marshall County, settling in Saratoga Township in the fall of 1854, during its pioneer days, and where they spent the remainder of their lives. James T. was reared to manhood in Marshall County, where he became familiar with the details of pioneer farm life and received a practical education in the schools of that day. Upon reaching manhood he was married, Nov. 6, 1867, to Miss Mary E. Divelbiss, who was a native of Peoria County, and born April 3, 1849. Her parents, Samuel and Rachel (Thomas) Divelbiss, were natives of Pennsylvania, and the father is deceased. The mother is still living, making her home with a daughter in Marshall County, Ill. Their family consisted of eleven children, eight of whom are living, namely: Henry, a resident of Kansas; George, of Iowa; Catherine, Mrs. Ferris, of Iowa; Jane, Mrs. Sanford Shaff, of Iowa; Harrison, of Nemaha Precinct, this county; Harvey, of Kansas; Maggie, Mrs. Gilbert Van Fleet, of Marshall County, Ill.; and Mrs. Jones, of our sketch.

Our subject and his wife commenced the journey of life together in Marshall County, Ill., and are the parents of six children. Their eldest son, William S., was born April 21, 1869; Grace M., born May 10, 1871, died April 11, 1872; Charles L. was born Sept. 4, 1874; Robert H., born March 4, 1877, died March 16, 1878; Daisy R. was born Dec. 25, 1881, and James H., Sept. 16, 1886. Mr. Jones and his family came to this county in the spring of 1880, and settled upon the land which they now own and occupy. Our subject and his estimable wife are active in all good works, and lend their aid and influence as opportunity affords in furthering those influences calculated for the general welfare of their community. Mr. Jones is President of the Johnson County Agricultural Society, and

takes an especial interest in the establishment and maintenance of schools; he has for years served as a Director in his district. Politically, he votes and labors in support of the principles of the Republican party.

THEODORE SMITH. The subject of this biography and his estimable wife represent 400 acres of land in Spring Creek Precinct and 160 acres in Cedar County, Neb., and are numbered among the most prominent people of Johnson County, not alone for their wealth and position, but on account of their sterling worth of character. Mr. Smith has been remarkably successful in his agricultural operations, which embrace an experience of nine years. During his early manhood he worked first at blacksmithing, and later conducted a carriage manufactory. He is by no means aged, however, having been born Sept. 20, 1844. His native place was in Northampton County, Pa., and his parents were Valentine and Sarah (Rasley) Smith, the father a native of Germany and the mother of the Keystone State.

To the parents of our subject there were born five children, namely: Theodore, of our sketch; Sarah, the wife of William Powell, of Henderson County, Ill.; Mary A., Mrs. John Fisher, of Atchison County, Kan.; Valentine, a resident of Helena Precinct, this county, and George, who is supposed to be a resident of Kansas. The father emigrated to America when a young man, and located in Northampton County, Pa., where he was married, and lived until after the birth of one child. Then, resolving to push further westward, he removed with his family to Fulton County, Ill., landing there in 1846, and being among its pioneer settlers. He carried on agriculture until some time in the fifties, then changed his residence to Henderson County, where his death took place about 1871, and that of his estimable wife about 1870.

Our subject was a lad eight years of age when his parents settled in Henderson County, Ill., and remembers many of the incidents of pioneer life in that region. He remained the assistant of his father on the farm until nearing the eighteenth year of his age, then, desirous of trying his hand at some-

thing else, repaired to Terre Haute in that county, and began an apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade under the instruction of Mr. Frank Jenkins. He served the appointed three years, then going to Henry, Marshall County, established a carriage manufactory, doing both a wholesale and retail business, and was thus engaged from 1864 until the fall of 1879. Selling out at that time he invested his capital in land.

The marriage of our subject and Miss Etta McConnell was celebrated at the home of the bride in Newport, Ind., Oct. 30, 1866. Of this union there are three children: Clarence E., born Sept. 20, 1867; William E., Feb. 21, 1872, and Roy, June 4, 1874. The wife and mother departed this life at their home in Henry, Ill., April 5, 1875.

Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance, Sept. 17, 1876, in LaSalle County, Ill., with Mrs. Louisa Smith, widow of Benjamin F. Smith, of Marshall County. This lady is a native of Bradford County, Pa., and was born May 5, 1848. Her parents were William G. and Clarissa (Warfield) Barnes, and the mother died at Henry, Ill., Jan. 5, 1880. Mr. Barnes is still living, and a resident of Los Angeles County, Cal. Both parents were natives of New England, and it is supposed were both of English ancestry. They were among the early settlers of Marshall County, Ill., having moved there when their daughter Louisa was a little girl eight years of age. Mr. Barnes was a very intelligent and capable man, who accumulated a good property. He held the various local offices, and uniformly gave his support to the enterprises calculated for the general welfare of the people around him.

Mrs. Smith was reared to womanhood in Marshall County, and was first married there Nov. 2, 1865. Of her union with Benjamin F. Smith there were born two children: Minnie L., who died when ten months old, and Willard B., now a promising youth of eighteen years, pursuing his studies in the Normal School at Holton, Kan. Benjamin F. Smith was a farmer and mechanic by occupation, and departed this life at his home in Marshall County, Ill., in 1872.

Theodore Smith and his family came to this county in the spring of 1880, and settled on the

farm which they still occupy, and which comprises 320 acres of valuable land. The beautiful residence is the observed of all observers who pass through the northeastern part of this county, and with its fine surroundings fulfills the idea of the complete country home. Mr. Smith is a man of more than ordinary capabilities, and one who has been the architect of his own fortune, having from the beginning been compelled to depend upon his own resources, which, after all, is the best schooling a man can have. Mrs. Smith owns 240 acres in her own right, and this is located in Spring Creek Precinct and Cedar County, Neb. Both she and her husband occupy an enviable social position, and have made many friends since their comparatively brief residence in this county. Mr. Smith is a Republican politically, and socially, a member in good standing of the I. O. O. F. at Tecumseh.

HENRY ROGGE. Among the prosperous, practical and wide-awake farmers who sustain the agricultural interests of Sterling Precinct, the subject of this sketch occupies no mean position. He is a native of Oldenberg, born May 18, 1840, and he there lived in the home of his parents, Jacob and Margaret Rogge, until he attained manhood. His father died in 1857, and his mother then bought a small farm to which she retired with her family, and our subject remained with her most of the time until 1866. He then determined to try life in the United States, and embarked on the "America," a sailing-vessel bound for this country, and after a tempestuous voyage of sixteen days, having encountered a heavy storm in mid-ocean which lasted four days, he landed in New York on the 25th day of April. He immediately proceeded to Henry County, Ohio, where he obtained work as a farm hand, and was thus employed for three years. At the expiration of that time he made his way to Nebraska, where he intended to become an independent farmer, taking advantage of the cheap lands and this wonderfully fertile soil. He selected Johnson County as his future home, and entered a claim under the Homestead Act to a 160-acre tract of land, where

he now lives, comprising the southeast quarter of section 6, Sterling Precinct. He built a sod house, in which he kept "bachelor's hall" most of the time until 1872.

In that year our subject took an important step toward establishing a more comfortable home by marrying, on the 25th of March, Miss Sophia Rogge. He had previously erected a small frame house, and in that he and his bride commenced their wedded life. Her parents, Henry and Caterina Rogge, are both dead, and the mother of our subject died in 1872. Nine children have blessed the union of our subject and his wife, namely: Willis, Edwin, Ola, Cora, Mary, Belle, Stella and Rowie, and one who died at the age of three weeks.

When Mr. Rogge came here, although he was not among the first settlers, his was the pioneer task to develop a farm from the wild, unbroken prairie, and as he had but \$200 he had to exercise the closest economy, and to manage with great frugality until his land would prove a source of income instead of outlay. But he was full of life and energy and not easily discouraged, so that he gradually became prosperous, and now none of his neighbors have a better tilled or more highly improved farm than he. It is supplied with a good house, barn and other necessary buildings, has a fine orchard and many forest trees, is well fenced, and every inch of soil is utilized. In these years of toil his wife has greatly aided him in the up-building of their home, both by cheerful assistance and ready counsel and encouragement. She is a woman of true Christian character, a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and one whose kindly heart makes her the friend of the needy and suffering.

Our subject is a well-informed man, and possesses a good fund of sound common sense and shrewd foresight, that make him invaluable as a citizen and as a neighbor. In his home relations he is a kind husband and wise father. He and his wife are determined that their children shall be well educated, and he thoughtfully provides them with good books. Mr. Rogge also takes an interest in general educational matters, and as a member of the School Board for several years has used his influence to provide good schooling for the children in this

township. He is Road Commissioner this year, and is faithfully performing his work in that direction. Mr. Rogge takes an intelligent view of the political questions of the day, and sides with the Republican party.



CHARLES WILKINSON. Among the enterprising and effective agriculturists of Maple Grove Precinct must be named the subject of this sketch, whose property is situated on section 24. His father was John Wilkinson, a native of England, who came to America about the year 1830. He made his first home in the New World in Peoria County, Ill. There he continued to reside for about fifteen years, and then moved to Walworth County, Wis., where he lived until his death, which occurred in 1885. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Harriet Egan, a native of Madison County, Ohio. This lady is now living in Knox County, Ill.

The subject of this biography is the only son of the above, and was born on the 12th of March, 1817, in Fulton County, Ill. He lived at home until he was thirteen years of age, when he commenced to work upon a farm by the week. He continued thus employed until 1868, when he came to Tecumseh and took a homestead claim of 160 acres of raw prairie land, which he has transformed into his present valuable and highly cultivated farm. With the exception of seven years spent in Knox County, during which he rented his property, he has resided thereon continuously from the time of his entry.

In October, 1875, the marriage of Mr. Wilkinson with Abbie Mills, a daughter of John and Lena (Thomas) Mills, was celebrated. Mr. and Mrs. Mills were natives of Ohio, but for many years had been residents of Knox County, Ill. Their daughter Abbie was born at Rome, Peoria Co., Ill., Sept. 11, 1854. Our subject and wife are the parents of two beautiful children, who, as they develop from childhood to youth, and come to more mature years, manifest capacity, intelligence and a disposition that mark them for honorable places

in the community. Their names are Harriet L. and Guy W.

At the conclusion of the seven years of his second residence in Knox County, Ill., our subject returned in 1879 to Johnson County and to his farm. This he has long since brought to a well-nigh perfect condition for agriculture. He is careful, thorough and practical, and devotes much thought to the further improvement and cultivation of the same.

In political matters Mr. Wilkinson favors the Union Labor party as that most likely to meet and carry out the desires of the major portion of the community. He has held the office of Assessor for two years, and has also been a member of the School Board—the latter office in fact he has occupied almost continuously. He is a member in good standing of the Masonic fraternity, and is quite a good worker in the various departments where such is required. He is a worthy and valued citizen, but unassuming, and in nowise anxious to figure prominently in political circles. His chief delight is in his home and farm, and there he has always sustained the most worthy and happy temperament, so as to be a favorite and looked-for member of the household, and popular among those who work for him. His fine home and out-buildings are shown in a view elsewhere in this ALBUM.



DANIEL RICHARDSON. The house and farm of this gentleman attract attention from the stranger or visitor to the county, especially of those who may be in the vicinity of sections 16, 4 and 9, of Western Precinct, because of its position and topographical surroundings. The house and farm buildings are situated upon the summit of one of the highest hills in the district, and being substantially built and of fine appearance, have become quite a landmark, as they may be seen for many miles in either direction. Mr. Richardson was born in Knox County, Ill., on the 25th of February, 1841. His father, Pliny Richardson, now deceased, was a native of Breckinridge County, Ky. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was Elizabeth Pierce.

She is now living in Knox County, and is eighty-one years of age.

Mr. and Mrs. Richardson, Sr., made their home in Warren County, Ill., in the year 1856, and there our subject was brought up on the home farm. His education was received in the usual institutions of the district, and was of the ordinary practical character. His patriotism led him to enlist in Company A, 102d Illinois Infantry, for a term of three years. He was present in the conflicts of the Atlanta campaign, and fought in the battles of Resaca, Dallas, Peachtree Creek, and also those of the Carolina campaign and Sherman's march. He saw much service outside the larger battles, and has a very honorable war record. Upon leaving the army he located in Knox County, and was there engaged in agriculture until 1875, when he returned to Warren County, carrying on a farm there until 1886, when he came to this county, and purchased and settled upon the property where he now makes his home, on section 16 of the above precinct, operating 120 acres of fine arable land in general farming and stock-raising.

Upon the 18th of November, 1869, was celebrated the marriage of the subject of this sketch with Sarah Ryner, who is the daughter of Spencer Ryner, of Warren County, Ill. There have been given to them six children, five of whom are now living, viz.: Trueman R., Sherman S., Alva L., Frank S. and Daniel B. The name of the deceased child was Oliver. The married life of our subject has been most happy, and in keeping with what would be a natural result for one of such character and disposition, so congenially allied.

Mr. Richardson was formerly a member of the United Brethren Church, but has not joined himself to any organization since coming to this State. Nevertheless both himself and wife take deep interest in religious matters, and also in local Sunday-school work, especially that carried on in the district school-house. They are liberal supporters of benevolent institutions and enterprises. Our subject is a true and loyal citizen, and an enthusiastic member of the G. A. R. He was always a strong Republican, and it so happens that some of his neighbors were with him in the army, and members of the same mess, who were of an oppo-

site opinion, so much so as to often use the epithet of "Black Abolitionist" to him.

Mrs. Richardson was born on the 25th of August, 1848, in Warren County, her father, who is a native of Pennsylvania, being one of the very early settlers in that county. The maiden name of her mother was Emily Butles, of Ohio. Both her parents are still living, and make their home in the town of Alexis, Warren County. Her brother, William Ryner, served with the Union forces in the late war, and has an honorable record in that connection.

For a view of the home of our subject see another page in this volume.

AFAYETTE A. SHARRETT, an Ohio man of excellent antecedents, occupies a good position as a representative farmer and stock-raiser in Lincoln Precinct, where, since the summer of 1856, he has successfully cultivated a farm of eighty acres of land, which is in a highly productive condition, and supplied with convenient and substantial buildings. This is located on section 30, the center of as fine a farming community as is to be found in the county, and Mr. Sharrett has been no unimportant factor in building up its present reputation. He is a self-made man, of intelligence and good business capacities, and one who enjoys in a marked degree the confidence and esteem of his neighbors.

Our subject was born in Greene County, Ohio, Aug. 16, 1853, and is the son of John B. and Elizabeth (Straly) Sharrett, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. When in the third year of his age he came with his parents to this county, where he was reared and educated, and of which he has since been a resident. He became early in life familiar with the various employments of the farm, and has been content to make agriculture his occupation, nothing delighting him more than to witness the development of the soil, the flourishing fields with their growing crops, and the gathering in of the golden harvests.

Mr. Sharrett when not quite thirty years of age was married, Feb. 21, 1883, to Miss Susie Sampson,

who was born Jan. 27, 1861, in Iowa County, Iowa, and is a daughter of Ezekiel and Elizabeth (Cook) Sampson, who are residents of Lincoln Precinct, and a sketch of whom appears on another page in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Sharrett commenced the journey of life together at their present homestead, and are the parents of three children: Pearl M., born Dec. 13, 1883; Jessie M., June 25, 1885, who died Aug. 6, 1885; and Mabel L., born June 1, 1888.

Our subject states that he has been ably assisted by his estimable wife in attaining to his present position, both socially and financially, and they are both members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have gathered around them many friends, who watch their progress with kindly interest, and who extend to them their warmest wishes for their future prosperity. Mr. Sharrett cast his first Presidential vote for R. B. Hayes, and politically, he uniformly votes the Republican ticket. He, like his honored father, lends his aid and influence as opportunity occurs to those projects having for their object the elevation of society and the best good of the people around him. On another page may be seen a view of his pleasant home and its surroundings.



HARRISON J. CURTIS, of section 22, township 6 north, range 11 east, of Helena Precinct, is one of the oldest pioneers of the county. He was born in St. Lawrence County, N. Y., on the 16th of August, 1839, and is the son of Henry and Eliza Curtis, who were natives of New York State and Vermont respectively. Originally three brothers emigrated from England to America; one settled in the South, another after a short sojourn returned to England, while the third located in New York State. Our subject is a direct descendant of the latter.

To the parents of our subject were born six children, of whom three survive, viz.: Marietta, who is married to Samuel Turman, of Churchill County, Nev.; Henry A., of Cook, in this State, and Harrison J., who was about five years of age

when his father died. About a year later he was taken into the family of Lewis R. King, of Huntsville, Schuyler Co., Ill., by whom he was brought up until he reached his eighteenth year. His presence in Illinois is accounted for by the fact that his parents left their New York home for the West about the year 1843, and located in Schuyler County, Ill., where, as previously mentioned, the father died within a year of removal.

The education of our subject, so far as schooling was concerned, was necessarily somewhat limited, Illinois being provided at that time almost without exception simply with subscription schools, and the winter months alone were devoted to study, but in all that went to make up the practical part of his training in farming, etc., he was perfectly conversant from his youth, and it is not surprising that upon starting upon his own account, with all the interest and responsibility attaching thereto, he speedily made his way to the front in such pursuits.

Devoted to his country and patriotic to a degree, our subject enlisted on the 12th of August, 1862, in Company C, 99th Illinois Infantry, which was mainly composed of young men of Pike County. The regiment was attached to the Western Army, and first did service in Missouri. Later our subject was transferred to the army before Vicksburg, and participated in the siege and battle at that place. He was detailed to act in the capacity of teamster, and carried provisions and ammunition, etc., for the troops, being what is called Quartermaster's teamster. Subsequently he participated in the siege of Jackson and later returned to Vicksburg, where he was in camp for a short time and then was transferred to New Orleans, where they lay in camp for a time and then were sent to Brazier City, La., where he was disabled by a kick from a mule, which was so severe that he was sent to New Orleans, where he remained in the hospital for over six weeks. He was then furloughed for sixty days and returned home, but at the expiration of that period being still unfit for service he received an extension of time, viz., thirty days, after which he returned to his regiment which was in Texas, going via New Orleans. He was now detailed to serve as dispatch carrier for

a short time, and was wounded by an explosion of a torpedo in March, 1864. This confined him to the hospital for some time, and resulted in his being unfit for service. He was therefore honorably discharged in June of that year in Louisiana. Upon returning to his Illinois home our subject, after his complete recovery, engaged in farming.

The marriage of our subject with Mary E. Cannon was celebrated on the 14th of March, 1860. This lady was born on the 14th of September, 1840, at Pleasant Hill, in Pike County, and is the daughter of Bluford and Margaret (Kerr) Cannon. Her parents were respectively natives of Kentucky and Missouri. Upon her father's side she is of Scotch-Irish descent, and the original founders of the family this side the Atlantic settled in Maryland. They were the parents of several children, of whom the following are living: Patience, the wife of Henry A. Curtis, of Cook County, Ill.; John, who is in Missouri; Henry, in Holt County, Colo.; Benjamin F., of Logan County, Kan., and Mrs. Curtis. These are all children by the first marriage of her father. By his second alliance he became the husband of Sarah Triplet, and several other children were born, of whom three are living, viz.: Kate, who is married to LaFayette Jones; Cora, the wife of LeRoy Jones, and Smith; all reside in Smith County, Kan.

To Mr. and Mrs. Curtis there have been given ten children, of whom they have lost four by death, viz.: William, Lily, Lutie and Samuel. The living children are as follows: Henry, who is married to Lydia Fleischer; Mollie, now Mrs. Nathan Douglas, of Cheyenne County, Kan.; Frank, Lucius, Wesley and Bessie. In 1866, accompanied by his wife and three children, our subject migrated from Illinois to this county. The journey was performed by means of a wagon and four mule teams, and some three weeks were consumed in the journey. Upon reaching their destination 160 acres of land was taken as a homestead claim on section 28 of Helena Precinct. It was situated about six miles north of Tecumseh, and the primitive condition of things at that time may be gathered from the fact that there was not a house between them and the village. This was their home until 1879, when they removed to their present farm and have resided there continuously from that time. He owns

160 acres and has every part of it well in hand. It is a fertile tract and yields good harvests. It is chiefly cultivated in the line of general farming. Throughout the years of their companionship Mr. and Mrs. Curtis have mutually assisted each other in all the affairs of life, and their home has been one of the happiest in the district. They are both members in good standing of the Baptist Church and take a deep interest in religious matters. Our subject has for a number of years been Deacon of the church, and still serves in that connection. For a number of years he has been a member of the School Board and has done good service. In 1888 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and is more than fulfilling the hopes of his friends. Politically, he is a Democrat, and is an active member of the party. He is also identified with the Masonic fraternity and advanced to the degree of Master Mason. He is a man of character and personal worth, and is one of the esteemed and much valued citizens of the county.



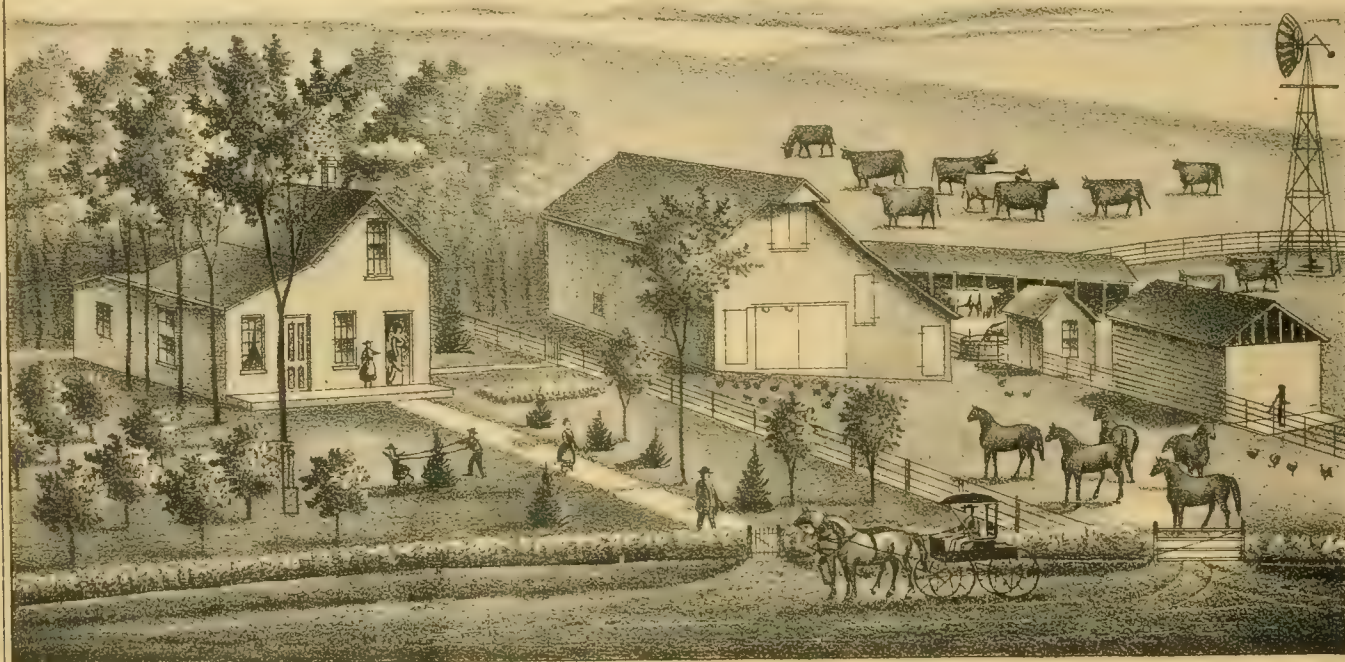
ANTHONY M. APPELGET, one of the most promising young lawyers of Johnson County, during a successful practice of ten years has built up a profitable business, and holds a fine position in the ranks of the legal fraternity. During this period he has been associated with his father, the well-known Judge Appelget, a long-time and highly respected resident of Tecumseh.

The subject of this sketch was born June 15, 1857, near the city of Princeton, N. J., where he lived until a lad of thirteen years. In the fall of 1870 he came with his parents to the West, they taking up their residence at once in Tecumseh. Anthony M., when of suitable age and acquirements, entered the law department of the Iowa State University, from which he emerged in the summer of 1878 with the degree of LL. B. On the 1st of July he began the practice of his profession, having been admitted to the bar of two States, and practices in all the courts, including the State and Supreme.

Mr. Appelget, in July, 1878, became associated



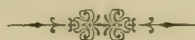
RESIDENCE OF J. W. KEPLINGER, SEC.22. NEMAHA PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF E. G. JURY, SEC.17.(4=11.) TODD CREEK PRECINCT.

with his father, and they practiced under the firm name of Appelget & Son. When the father assumed the judicial ermine the partnership was dissolved, and the son has gradually dropped into the practice of the former. He has already accumulated a fine property, owning besides his handsome residence at the intersection of Fifth and Grant streets, other improved property in the city, and is interested with his father in Kansas and Nebraska lands. He has been for five terms City Attorney, and as a leading member of the Republican party is almost invariably called upon to act as delegate to its conventions.

On the 22d of October, 1879, Anthony M. Appelget was united in marriage with Miss Mary C. Payne, and to them have been born five children. Of these but four are living, namely: Thomas, Harry, Abbie and Clarence. They have a very pleasant and attractive home, and enjoy the companionship of hosts of friends. Mr. A., socially, is a K. of P., Past Chancellor of Minerva Lodge No. 74, K. of P., and Colonel of the Nebraska Division of Sons of Veterans, and Judge Advocate General of Commander-in-Chief of Sons of Veterans. He has of late been the principal counsel in every prominent lawsuit in the city of Tecumseh and vicinity. He is a close student, an extensive reader, and keeps himself thoroughly posted upon the important points constantly arising in his practice. As a man prominent in his community, he has occupied many positions of trust and responsibility, and during the existence of the First National Bank at Tecumseh was its Vice President.



JACOB W. KEPLINGER. The snug farm belonging to this gentleman embraces eighty acres of thoroughly cultivated land lying on section 22 in Nemaha Precinct. At present he is interested in graded stock, keeping choice breeds of Short-horn cattle, which he disposes of at handsome profits. Although perhaps not the hero of any very thrilling event, he has signalized himself as a useful and worthy citizen, and by his example of thrift and industry has contributed his quota to the well-being and reputation of his precinct. He

has a very pleasant homestead, replete with modern conveniences, and is a gentleman held in respect among his neighbors. A view of the homestead forms one of the interesting features of this ALBUM.

Crawford County, Ohio, was the early tramping ground of our subject, and where his birth took place Dec. 28, 1852. He lived there until a man of twenty-five years, acquiring a practical education, and assisting his father in farm work. At this time, considering that he was justified in establishing domestic ties and a home of his own, he was married, and soon afterward started for the West. Crossing the Mississippi into this State he reached Humboldt on the 9th of January, 1878, and was there occupied in buying grain and stock one and one-half years. In the spring of 1879 he purchased the land which he now owns, and which was then a tract of wild prairie upon which a furrow had never been turned.

All of the improvements which the passing traveler observes to-day upon the farm of Mr. Keplinger have been brought about by his own industry and good management. He has labored early and late, considering no effort too great for the end in view. At an early stage he planted between four and five acres of forest trees, set out an orchard, and put up a substantial house and barn. He later added the various other conveniences which have so much influence in the comfort and happiness of a home. He was soon recognized as a valued addition to this part of Johnson County, was made School Director and Supervisor, and given other positions of trust and responsibility among the affairs of a community which gradually grew up around him.

Miss Catherine Gossman, of Crawford County, Ohio, became the wife of our subject on the evening of Christmas Day, 1877. Their wedding was celebrated at the home of the bride, and a few weeks afterward the young couple set out for their projected home in the West. Their first child, Leila May, was born Feb. 25, 1879, while they were residents of Tecumseh; Amy Viola was born in February, 1881, and Clara Edith, Sept. 25, 1886. They are a bright little trio, the joy and pride of the parents' heart.

Mrs. Keplinger is the daughter of Jacob and

Mary (Wagoner) Gossman. The father, a native of Germany, emigrated to America during his early manhood, and settled on a tract of land in Crawford County, Ohio, where he built up a good homestead, and continued to live until his decease, which occurred in the spring of 1864. The mother is still living, and resides at the old homestead in the Buckeye State. Both parents identified themselves with the Methodist Episcopal Church long years ago. The parental household included ten children, nine of whom are living, and residents mostly of Ohio.

Charles Keplinger, the father of our subject, was born in York County, Pa., Feb. 2, 1809. He lived there until reaching his majority, then removed to Stark County, Ohio. He was there married to Miss Sarah Werstler, and thence removed to Crawford County, the same State, where he carried on farming, and spent a number of years. He eliminated a good homestead from the dense forest, and by a life of integrity gained the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, who tendered him various offices of public trust. He served as Township Clerk and Treasurer, and was County Commissioner for six years. In religious matters he was, with his excellent wife, a warm adherent of the German Lutheran Church. Charles Keplinger departed this life at his home in Bucyrus, Ohio, to which he had removed after abandoning the active labors of the farm, on the 23d of May, 1886. The mother is still living in Bucyrus. Their family consisted of eleven children, most of whom lived to mature years.



EMANUEL G. JURY. This gentleman stands in the front rank of stock-raisers in this county, and is the owner of an excellent farm of 160 acres on section 17 of Todd Creek Precinct. He was born in Lacon, Ill., May 1, 1852, and continued to make that his home until 1883. He was educated in the schools of that district, and became possessed of a good practical knowledge of the ordinary branches of education. Leaving the school, he went on his father's farm until he at-

tained his majority, and then started life for himself.

The first farm of our subject was in Livingston County, Ill., near Minonk, and was operated as a grain farm. His harvests were usually good, and he reckoned upon an average of forty-five bushels to the acre. He continued prosperously engaged there until he sold out in 1883, and came to Humboldt, Richardson County, this State. There he lived for one year, and then came to his present farm, upon which he has since been continuously engaged, thoroughly improving it. During the last year he has built a very fine barn, which stands 36x40 feet, ground measurement, with 16-foot posts, and the farm is all fenced and cross-fenced. His home he has doubled in size and made one of the most comfortable farmhouses in the district. He is chiefly engaged in stock-raising, using mainly Short-horns and Red-Polled Norfolks, and is working largely toward the latter class. He has between seventy and eighty head. He has also a number of Poland-China hogs, which variety he has raised for about fourteen years.

Mr. Jury was united in wedlock with Alice M. Barger, of Illinois, on the 14th of September, 1876. They are the parents of five children, all living, whose names are as follows: Herbert E., Carrie May, George Lewis, Myrtle S. and Nellie Frances. Mrs. Jury was born in Peoria County, Ill., on the 8th of May, 1855, and is the daughter of Samuel W. and Salvina Barger. Her father was by occupation a blacksmith, an expert workman, and had quite an extensive business. He removed to Livingston County, and there our subject met and formed a friendship with the lady. Mr. Barger was a native of New York, and went West as a young man in search of the more adventurous turns in fortune's wheel usually expected in life in the West. Later he was married to Miss S. Hendricks, of New York, and to them were born seven children. In 1883 he moved to Sibley, Iowa, with his family, and there owns a thoroughly improved farm, although he has retired from its active working.

The father of our subject, George Jury, was born in England, and came to this country shortly after his marriage with Miss Margaret Matters.

They settled first in Lacon, Ill., residing there until his death, which occurred about one year after coming to this country. This event left his widow with their only child, our subject, who was then a year old. His mother continued to live there, but he was taken to his grandparents, with whom he lived until he was nine years old. Then, his mother having married Robert Thompson, of Livingston County, Ill., he went back to the farm. Mrs. Thompson is still living, at Flanagan.

The subject of our sketch is a devout member of the Baptist Church, his wife being affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal communion. Mr. Jury is an active, enterprising and prominent citizen, and is held in high regard by his fellows. His character and life are such as to make him an honor to the community of which he is a resident. His fine home is shown in a view on another page.



GEORGE W. CARMINE. Todd Creek Precinct has many farms of an unusually fine description, not the least of which is that owned by the subject of our sketch. It is 160 acres in extent, and is situated on sections 7, 4 and 12. It is thoroughly improved, and is either cross-fenced or hedged in all its divisions. The property was somewhat improved at the time he purchased it in 1883, but he has expended much time, thought and money to bring it to its present excellent condition.

Among the chief improvements made by our subject must be mentioned the erection and furnishing of his residence, which is one of the best in the district, and compares favorably with many in more Eastern States that are far more pretentious. It has four large reception rooms on the first floor, and four above for other purposes. The home is elegantly furnished, and abundantly supplied with the various devices insuring the greatest possible amount of convenience and ease. Externally, the gardens, etc., show it off to advantage, besides making the surroundings exceedingly pleasant.

Ohio claims the honor of being the birthplace of the subject of our sketch, and the date of his na-

tivity is the 21st of March, 1834. He was fifteen years old when his parents left the Buckeye State for Fulton County, Ill. His early life was shadowed by the loss of his mother by death when he was six years of age, and this has doubtless more or less affected his whole subsequent experience. He received a good English education, so far as such is obtainable in the usual institutions of the country. After leaving the classes and text-books, he learned the carpenter's trade, and worked at the same for a number of years.

When about twenty-five years of age Mr. Carmine removed to Henry County, Ill., where he made his home for about ten years, after which he went to Plymouth County, Iowa, remaining there for six years, then coming to this State. He has all his life been more or less acquainted with the various duties and responsibilities connected with agricultural life, and chose to make that his occupation, and has chiefly followed the same, with what success it is unnecessary to say. His whole property, stock, and also his home, speak too eloquently to be misunderstood as to that matter.

While a resident of Knox County, Ill., Mr. Carmine was united in the bonds of wedlock with Miss Abigail Kays, of Knox County, Ill., the event occurring Jan. 21, 1857. There have come to them eight children, five of whom are living, viz.: Henry, Mary, Jennie, Susie and George. Henry married Miss Katie Pogue, of this county, and lives in this precinct; Mary became the wife of Mr. L. B. Arnett, of Johnson; Jennie is the wife of Lorin Blakeley, of Johnson County, Neb.; the remaining children are still with their parents on the home farm.

The wife of our subject was born in Knox County, Ill., in the year 1832. She is the daughter of William and Elizabeth (Bracken) Kays. She made her home with her parents until her marriage, was educated in the schools in Knox County, Ill., and is well prepared by this and her home training to fill any position in the home or society generally. Her father was a native of Kentucky, but removed with his family to Illinois in 1824 or 1825, where he still resides in Abingdon, Knox County, and although now retired from active engagements is still the owner of a large farm. He was bereaved of his wife in the year 1870, but subsequently married

again. Within the communion of the Methodist Episcopal Church he is perfectly at home religiously, having been a member of the same for about sixty years.

Curtis Carmine, the father of our subject, is a native of Maryland, and was born in the year 1814. While yet a youth he migrated to Ohio, then the Far West, and in that State was married in 1833 to Miss Susannah Towers. Besides our subject, they had two children, viz.: Susannah and Maria. He was a mechanic, and always continued to follow his trade. The home was at Circleville, DeWitt County, and there he died in 1873, when about forty years of age.

Having lost his mother when so young, our subject has largely had to depend upon himself. He is now one of the prominent and much esteemed men of Todd Creek Precinct, and indeed of the county, and also a very able citizen. He is chiefly engaged in general farming, and in the raising of cattle, horses and hogs. He raises the best breeds of cattle, and in horses confines himself almost entirely to the heavy road draft horses.

Frequently has Mr. Carmine been called upon to fill various township and school offices, and is a member of the Republican party, but not active as a politician, nor eager to take any chief seat in the political synagogue. Religiously, he is affiliated with the Baptist Church at Long Branch, and is accounted an able and faithful supporter of the institution.

JOHN W. PRATT, a well-known pioneer of Johnson County, was for many years prominently identified with its agricultural interests, whereby he acquired the wealth which has enabled him to retire to his pleasant home in Sterling to pass the evening of life free from the cares of an active business. Mr. Pratt has witnessed the growth of this part of the county from a bleak prairie to a flourishing little city, and he has assisted in the development of the country around it. When he first came to Nebraska, in 1853, and located in what is now Nemaha County, this State had not even been organized as a Territory, and there were but few signs of civilization. The small

number of white settlers that had preceded him lived near the Missouri, the interior of the Territory being given over to the Indians, buffaloes, deer, wolves, and other wild animals, so that almost the entire growth of the State has passed under the notice of our subject. Brownville, where he lived for some years, was a mere trading-post, and after his removal to Johnson County, was the nearest post-office for some time. The first post-office in Sterling was established in 1867, and was kept by John Bentz. The first merchant in the city was Charles Tripp, who is still in business here. The nearest milling point was below St. Joseph, Mo., on the river.

Mr. Pratt comes of good old Massachusetts stock, and is himself a native of that New England State. He was born in the city of Boston, Nov. 10, 1830, being the eldest of the family of six children, four sons and two daughters, born to Enoch and Amanda (McGaugh) Pratt. His parents went to Bureau County, Ill., when he was a child of two years, and were pioneers of that part of the country, where they spent the remainder of their lives, the father dying in 1861, at the age of sixty-seven years, and the mother in 1887, at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. They led quiet and unostentatious lives, guided by the highest principles, and merited and received the respect of all who knew them.

Our subject was reared in Illinois, but in early manhood he came to Nebraska, and for some years was a resident of Brownville. The first year he was in the employ of the Government, under Kit Carson, herding cattle that belonged to the United States. March 6, 1856, he was united in marriage to Miss Mary O. Smith, and their wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of four children, namely: Freelon M.; Amanda J., now Mrs. Hersha; Olive and Clysta, all of whom are living.

Mr. and Mrs. Pratt spent the first few years of their marriage in Nemaha County, where they were quietly living when the war broke out. Fired with patriotism and an earnest desire to serve his country in her hour of need, our subject enlisted in 1861 as a member of Company G, 27th Iowa Infantry, and for three years was a brave and capable soldier on Southern battle-fields, taking part in many a hotly contested engagement, and winning a good mili-

tary record. After the war he came to Johnson County and took up a homestead claim on section 23, Sterling Precinct, comprising 160 acres of land joining the corporation of Sterling. He has improved this once wild piece of prairie into a valuable farm, which he still owns. He erected a good, large frame house, a commodious barn, corn-cribs, etc., and has the land under a fine state of improvement. After the marriage of his eldest daughter, who lives on the homestead, Mr. Pratt and his family moved into the city to their present attractive home.

Our subject is a self-made man, having started in life without a dollar, and gained his present competence only through downright hard labor, seconded by shrewd management and wise economy. He is a man whose genialty, liberality and kind thoughtfulness have secured him the warm friendship of many, and these pleasant social traits make him a valued member of Sill Post No. 99, G. A. R., and of the F. & A. M., Sterling Lodge No. 70. In his political views he is a pronounced Republican. His wife and daughter Clysta are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and his daughter Amanda and her husband belong to the Presbyterian Church.



WILLIAM M. YOUNG. Prominent among the pioneer farmers of Johnson County is the subject of this sketch, who came within its limits in the fall of 1865, and homesteaded the southeast quarter of section 24, in Spring Creek Precinct. This land he still owns, it being a part of his fine farm of 240 acres, he having added to his first purchase, and has brought the whole to a fine state of cultivation. Not a furrow had been turned on his property at the time of its purchase, and there were upon it neither fences nor buildings. For the first ten or twelve years he battled with chinch bugs, grasshoppers, drouth and other difficulties, but his indomitable spirit would allow no such word as "fail," and it seemed as if in time the adverse elements grew weary and gave up the struggle in favor of the industrious and persever-

ing pioneer. He has now emerged from the struggle, victor in all respects, having a valuable property, and being surrounded by all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

A native of Tipton County, Tenn., our subject was born June 16, 1830, and is the son of Robert and Frances (Hutchens) Young, the father a native of Kentucky, and the mother of North Carolina. The paternal ancestors were of Irish origin. Grandfather William Young served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and his son Robert, the father of our subject, in the War of 1812. The former carried several honorable scars as the result of his bravery and devotion to duty in that memorable conflict, and at one time was taken off the field supposed to be dead. By careful treatment and subsequent good nursing, however, he was revived, and lived for many years to tell the tale. He spent his last years in Kentucky.

The parents of our subject had a family of eight children, only two of whom survive—William M. and his sister Amanda, the wife of Granville Madison, of Blue Springs, this State. Those deceased were named respectively: James F., Mary J., Hamilton H., Sarah L., Martha A. and Robert L. The father died at the homestead in Tennessee in 1836, when our subject was a little lad six years of age. The mother survived her husband a period of forty-four years, remaining a widow and caring for her children as best she could until they were able to do for themselves. William M. being the eldest son, the care of the family naturally devolved upon him as soon as he was old enough to assume it. He remained with his mother until his marriage, and then took her to his own home, she remaining with him until her death, which occurred April 13, 1882, where he now lives. Mrs. Frances Young was a lady possessing all the Christian virtues, and carefully trained her children in those principles of honesty and uprightness which would constitute them useful members of society and enable them to lead worthy and happy lives. They ever looked up to her as their model, and she was spared to them until nearly rounding up the sum of four-score years.

The parents of our subject were married in Kentucky, but soon afterward removed to Tipton

County, Tenn., where the father became a prominent man in his community, and served as Justice of the Peace. Both parents were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After the death of the father the mother removed with her children to Cumberland County, Ky., where our subject was reared to manhood on a farm. It was necessary for him to begin life's labors as soon as he was old enough and strong enough, and he was consequently deprived of the advantages of thorough schooling, but under the encouragement of his mother he pursued a course of reading and study at home, employing thus his leisure hours, and acquired perhaps more real practical information than many who enjoyed the advantages of the regular schools.

Mr. Young was married in Cumberland County, Ky., Sept. 9, 1852, to Miss Paulina Rowland, who was born in that county, Nov. 11, 1835. Her parents were Wade and Winnifred (Murphy) Rowland, who were natives of Virginia, and spent their last years in Kentucky. The year following their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Young, accompanied by the mother of our subject, and James Rowland and Milton Scoot, left the Blue Grass regions and took up their abode in Mason County, Ill., where Mr. Young farmed on rented land until 1865. The fall of that year found him, as we have stated, on his journey to Nebraska Territory.

The neighbors of our subject were few and far between at the time of his coming to Johnson County, he being one of the very first settlers of his neighborhood, and is consequently one of its oldest residents. He has always taken a leading part in local affairs, serving as Treasurer of the School Board in his district, and filling other positions of trust and responsibility. He has watched with warm interest the growth and development of his adopted State, and reflects with pardonable pride upon the fact that he has contributed his share in the building up of Johnson County. Both he and his estimable wife occupy a high position socially, and the latter has been for many years a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

To Mr. and Mrs. Young there have been born twelve children, eight sons and four daughters,

three of whom died in infancy. The survivors are: Luran O.; James F., carrying on farming in Spring Creek Precinct; Mary J., the wife of Abner Jones, of Helena Precinct; John W., Robert M., Martha A., William M. and Orlando T., at home with their parents. They are a bright and interesting group, and have received careful home training, besides a practical education in the district schools. Manda F., the fourth child, died when two years old.

MICHAEL STANTON, one of the representative and prosperous farmers of Todd Creek Precinct, one of the first settlers therein, is now the owner of 160 acres of fine agricultural land on section 18. This he took up as a homestead when he first came to the State. That his choice has been a wise one has been fully manifested by the course of events. It is all under cultivation, either in grain or tame grass, the latter for hay and pasture.

The birthplace of our subject was in Oneida County, N. Y., where he was born July 26, 1838. There he spent the first seventeen years of his life, was educated in the district schools, and subsequently turned his attention to farming, proposing to make that his life occupation. Accompanying his parents, he removed to Knox County, Ill., in the year 1855, and continued to make his home in that State until he came here in 1867.

In Knox County, Ill., April 13, 1862, was celebrated the marriage of our subject with Miss Emily Hall, of Knox County, Ill. There have been born to them nine children, eight of whom are living, whose names are as follows: Lillian, Cora, Charles, Florence, Irena, Jennie, Harry and Pearl. The eldest child, whose name was Eva May, is deceased. The children of our subject are receiving the best educational opportunities and excellent home training it is within the power of their parents to give. Some are engaged in teaching, and that with considerable success. All are still under the home roof, and the family circle, with the above-named exception, is unbroken.

The father of our subject, whose given name also was Michael, was a native of the Emerald Isle,

and was born in Ireland about 1810. He came to this country when a youth, and subsequently became the husband of Catherine Ennis. He followed agricultural pursuits in Oneida County, N. Y. They became the parents of six children, all of whom are now living and occupying honorable positions in life. Mr. Stanton went West in the year 1854, locating in Illinois, where he made his home until his death.

Coming to Nebraska in 1866, our subject made every possible effort to succeed, and has done so beyond expectation. There is a splendid grove of seven acres which he put out when first taking the homestead, and they are now quite large trees. He has not forgotten to plant an extensive orchard of apple, peach, cherry, plum, and other trees that are known to thrive well in this climate. The farm is utilized as a grain and stock farm. He usually has from thirty to forty head of high-grade Short-horns, besides other cattle. He is an earnest advocate of the practice of dehorning cattle. He was among the first to introduce the red polled Northup cattle in the county, which he now uses for breeding purposes. In horses he prefers and uses the Percheron stock, and owns about six or eight head. His house, which he built in 1883, is one of comfort and convenience, and has given him so far as the building is concerned, a most pleasant and comfortable home.

Mr. Stanton has not been forward in political matters, or a leader in political circles. He usually votes with the Democratic party, and has held the office of School Director, and also some of the township offices. He is well respected throughout the community, and held in regard as a man, friend and citizen, and also because he has made a success of his life so far as it pertains to his chosen occupation.



WARREN H. HOLMES, junior partner of the firm of Russell & Holmes, the old established and substantial banking house of Tecumseh, was born in Jefferson, Jefferson Co., Wis., on the 5th of August, 1849. He there received his education, and after completing the curriculum of regular institutions, he took a course of

instruction in the Jefferson Liberal Institute, and upon completing his education engaged in business as a book-seller and stationer, and was Deputy Postmaster under his brother, C. A. Holmes, for about five years.

In September, 1873, our subject came to Tecumseh, and from that time has been connected with the above firm, excepting when he has been absent upon duties connected with his official position, as for instance in 1875, when he was in the State Auditor's office, when he removed to Lincoln for about a year. He has served upon the Council several times, and also on the School Board. He has, with much satisfaction to those concerned, filled the offices of both City Clerk and City Treasurer. In political matters he is a warm friend of the Republican party, and is ever actively engaged in its interests. He is one of the prominent and representative citizens of Tecumseh, and is with all quite popular. Both he and his wife are members in good standing of the Universalist Church at Tecumseh, and are never tired of actively engaging in its support. In addition to the banking business proper, he is interested in the canning factory, and is also Treasurer of the Tecumseh Savings Bank.

In the sketch of the life of Hon. C. A. Holmes, presented upon another page, will be found reference to the family history of this gentleman, to which the interested reader is referred for such information as may be desired upon that point. Mr. Holmes was united in marriage with Miss Flora M. Seaver, of Jefferson, Wis., celebrating the same upon the 13th of December, 1875. Their union has been happily consummated by the birth of four children, three of whom it is their privilege to have spared to them. These are still at home, receiving the best education that can be obtained. Their names are recorded as John R., Chandler W. and Eunice.

Miss Flora M. Seaver was born in the above county, on the 13th of June, 1850. She is the daughter of Samuel R. Seaver. Her mother died during the early infancy of this daughter, and from then until her marriage she made her home with an older sister. Her father was a native of Massachusetts, in which State he was born in 1800. In

the early days of settlement in Wisconsin he migrated thitherward and was among its first settlers. The maiden name of his wife was Diantha Thompson. They were the parents of seven children, six of whom attained their majority. His wife died about the year 1853, and he subsequently remarried. Mr. Seaver died in Jefferson in 1863. He was an extensive and enterprising farmer, but during the last eight or ten years of life did not do any active work.

Mr. Warren H. Holmes is the owner of a residence property in Tecumseh, and is otherwise interested in city real estate. His home is located on the corner of Fifth and Sheridan streets, and is one of the finest locations in the city. He is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and has served the latter in some of its offices, and is now Junior Deacon of his lodge. Mrs. Holmes, who takes the deepest interest in all benevolent enterprises, is a lady of position in the community, both admired and respected. She is ex-Secretary of the Women's Relief Corps, and very energetic and thorough in everything that pertains to the order, more especially her department of the work.



LEWIS H. DETERMANN. The agricultural interests of Lincoln Precinct have in the subject of this biographical epitome a worthy representative. He is a native of Prussia, and was born in that Kingdom on the 17th of February, 1820. His present residence is on section 6 of township 5 north, range 12 east. His property there comprises eighty acres. He is the second eldest son of Henry and Lena Determann, both of whom are natives of Prussia.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America in the year 1834, taking passage at Bremen in a sailing-vessel that landed in the city of Baltimore after eight weeks upon the Atlantic. From the Monumental City they removed to Trumbull County, Ohio, almost at once, and were pioneers of that county, where they made their home until they were called to cross that bourne from which no traveler returns. At that time they were each

about eighty-two years of age. Of their four children only our subject and his sister Louisa are living. She is the wife of Theodore Graff, a prominent citizen of Trumbull County, Ohio.

At the time his parents settled in Ohio our subject was about fourteen years of age. He had received some education in the schools of his native country, but also attended those of Trumbull County. He gave his attention to farming and to the care of stock, and was able to render very efficient help in that regard. On the 15th of August, 1844, he received in marriage the hand of Lydia Bailey, the amiable daughter of Jesse and Mary Bailey, of Trumbull, Ohio. She was born July 8, 1823. Their union has been consummated by the birth of seven children, three living, viz.: Mary J., who is happily married to Enoch Heltzel, of Polk County, Iowa; Henry L., and Emma, the wife of M. B. Case, of Gage County, Neb. The names of the deceased children were: Henry, Nancy and Martha; besides these there was an infant who died unnamed.

In the year 1854 our subject, who had been until that time engaged as a collier in Trumbull County, removed to Henry County, Ill., where he resided until the spring of 1879, when he with his family removed to this State, settling upon the farm still occupied by them. It is some eighty acres in extent, and is one of the productive and well cultivated farms of the precinct. He has brought it to this condition, and to his labor is due the present improved order of things, seeing that it was wild prairie land simply at the time he took possession, which is all the more creditable because of the fact that he started life minus the help that is usually given by parents to their sons, but which in the case of our subject was impossible.

When the call to arms was made, in 1862, our subject responded with alacrity, enlisting on the 15th of August of that year in Company K, 112th Illinois Infantry. His regiment was attached to the Army of the Tennessee, Gen. Sherman commanding. They participated in the battles of Lookout Mountain, Resaca, siege of Atlanta, Columbus, Franklin, siege of Nashville, after which they were transferred to North Carolina, where they assisted in the capture of the forts at Frisber

in the Peninsula; in the taking of Wilmington, from which place they went to Riley, thence to Greensboro, N. C., where they were finally discharged in July, 1865. Upon one occasion Mr. Determann was captured in Kentucky and was a paroled prisoner of war for six months, during which time he performed detached duty in the barracks at Louisville, Ky.

Leaving the military service our subject returned to Henry County, Ill., continuing there until he came to this State. He and his wife are now in the prime of life, and are happy in being in a position socially fully to enjoy the success in life that has come to them. Both are active members of the Christian Church, and in that connection and every other circle are well received and greatly respected. In politics our subject was at one time a Whig, but since its establishment has been with the Republican party. He is a deeply interested member in the G. A. R., and is attached to the post at Tecumseh.



BENJAMIN ARCHER. Among those who have taken part in the work of bringing Johnson County to its present high position in the State is the subject of this epitome, who was born in Plymouth, Vt., on the 22d of March, 1824, and is the son of John W. and Sarah (Lusher) Archer. Until he was about fifty-four years of age our subject lived in his native State, and from his boyhood has for the most part been occupied with agricultural pursuits and manufacturing. After attaining to his young manhood he worked out as a farm hand until the time of his marriage.

Miss Lorinda M. Holden and the subject of our sketch were united in matrimony at Reading, Vt., in June, 1848, Mr. Archer being at that time twenty-four years of age. There were born to them six children, only two of whom survive, and they are married. Mrs. Archer was born in Reading, Vt., in January, 1828, to Willard and Sally Holden, and is one of four children born to them. She made the acquaintance of our subject at Plymouth, Vt., which finally resulted in their marriage.

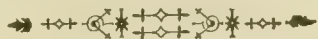
On the 18th of March, 1883, our subject was again married, taking as his wife Jane Elkhorn, of Pennsylvania.

Death has been busy in this family, and the obituary list has lengthened to what would, perhaps, seem of undue length. The father of our subject died in Vermont, at the age of seventy-five years, passing to his rest on the 24th of August, 1858. The mother died on the 31st of October, 1857, aged seventy-eight years. Julia I., the daughter of our subject, died on the 1st of November, 1863, aged six years; her sister Abbie A. on the 22d of December of the same year, aged five years; and Hiram B. died in Manchester, N. H., early in the year 1882, at the age of thirty-three years.

Mr. Archer landed in Sterling, this State, on the 10th of February, 1876, and since that time has been identified with the State, and is by no means behind his neighbors in his efforts to advance the common weal. At first he worked for some time with his brother Joseph, whose life is also noticed in this work, but after one or two years thus spent he hired as a farm hand to John Humple, near Crab Orchard. He staid with that gentleman about four years, and then bought his present home, which is situated on the southeast corner of section 35 of Sterling Precinct. This was in August of 1880. After finishing his engagement with Mr. Humple he boarded with Mr. Peter Yates until his marriage, when he at once came to his home and began to operate his own land.

The farm of our subject in the beginning included but 160 acres. He had purchased three 160-acre farms in Jefferson County, in 1869, and two of these he traded for his present home, which was partially improved. It had upon it a small but comfortable dwelling, and about 100 acres in cultivation, but now it is all brought to a high state of cultivation and fertility. About thirty-five acres are fenced and used as pasture. He has two good dwellings, an excellent barn and every other necessary building. He is also the owner of two residences in Sterling, which he rents, so that he is now well off, and has the gratification of knowing that what he has accomplished is but the result of the strenuous efforts made by lawful ambition to improve his position in life. He is a good manager,

thrifty, business like, and a man of honor and character. He is one of the esteemed members of the Baptist Church at Sterling, and a staunch adherent to and worker with the Republican party.



MICHAEL CRILE began his hand-to-hand struggle with a portion of the primitive soil of Lincoln Precinct in this county in the fall of 1870, when he purchased 160 acres of land on section 16, where he has since labored with the most admirable results. At that time his neighbors were comparatively distant, and the country around him bore little resemblance to its present condition. He endured the hardships common to the people of that time and place, and for a series of years labored early and late to build up a homestead and acquire a competency for his declining years. He is still in his prime, having been born Dec. 3, 1839, at the modest home of his parents in Wayne County, Ohio.

John and Elizabeth (Reighard) Crile, the parents of our subject, were natives of Pennsylvania, and of substantial German ancestry. They were people occupying a good standing in the community, and after their marriage left their native State, probably about 1825, settling among the pioneers of Wayne County, Ohio, where they resided until about ten years after the birth of their son Michael. In 1849 the father changed his residence to Henry County, Ill., whence in the year 1863 he migrated across the Mississippi to Central City, Col. He now, with his aged and excellent partner, is enjoying the comforts of a quiet home in Nebraska. The father has attained his fourscore years, while the mother is seventy-eight. They have been remarkable for their useful and active lives, wherein they have gathered around them hosts of friends, whose esteem and confidence they enjoy in a remarkable degree.

To the parents of our subject were born twelve children, of whom the following survive: Michael, our subject; Maria, the wife of Jacob Fries, of this State; Catherine, Mrs. John Cochran, of Central City, Col.; Sophia, the wife of Lewis Graff, of this county, where also live Franklin and John; Sarah,

the wife of Major Bitton, of Central City, Col.; George, in Henry County, Ill., and Emma, wife of Jacob Summers, of this county. The parents were members of the German Evangelical Association, and held in highest respect among the early settlers of Wayne County, where they endured in common with their neighbors the lot of the pioneer, and assisted in the development of the country around them. Michael removed with his parents to Henry County, Ill., where he attained his majority, receiving but a limited education, the advantages of the young men of that day being widely different from those enjoyed by the present generation. He assisted his father in building up the two homesteads in Ohio and Illinois, remaining a member of the parental household until the outbreak of the Civil War.

On the 11th of August, 1862, our subject proffered his services as a soldier of the Union, enlisting in Company K, 112th Illinois Infantry, which became a part of Sherman's army, but later was assigned to the command of Gen. Thomas. Mr. Crile participated in the battles of the Atlanta campaign, including the siege of that city, was also in the battles at Columbus and Franklin, Tenn., and the siege of Nashville. Later he was at Knoxville under Gen. Burnside, and subsequently at Ft. Anderson, N. C., also fighting at Goldsboro and at Raleigh, where the rebel General Johnston surrendered. He was twice cut off from his regiment by the rebels, first at Richmond, Ky., and the second time in the vicinity of Cumberland Gap. He, however, managed to escape capture, and rejoined his comrades safe and sound. He endured in common the hardships and privations of life in the army, being found uniformly at the post of duty, and on the 20th of June, 1865, after the close of the war, received his honorable discharge.

Mr. Crile upon leaving the army returned to Henry County, Ill., where he engaged in farming until his marriage. This most important event in his life was celebrated in September, 1867, his bride being Miss Catherine, daughter of John Schumann, one of the pioneers of Lincoln Precinct, and of whom further mention is made in the sketch of Henry Schumann, which will be found on another page in this volume. After remaining the faithful

and affectionate companion of her husband for a period of twenty years, Mrs. Crile departed this life at her home in Lincoln Precinct, Oct. 26, 1887. She was a lady greatly beloved by her friends and family, as one possessed of all the Christian virtues, a devoted wife and mother, and a kind and charitable neighbor. She left a vacancy in the home circle which can never be filled. She was the mother of five children, namely: Charles, John, Nannie N., Frank and William. The eldest of these is twenty-one years of age and the youngest two, and they all remain at home with their father.

The Crile homestead is especially noticeable for its fine improvements, the fruit and shade trees which surround the dwelling providing a shelter from the heats of summer and the storms of winter. Mr. Crile has planted an apple orchard of 140 trees besides trees of the smaller fruits, which have yet to develop to their full capacities. The farm is well improved and under a good state of cultivation, indicating its owner to be a man of untiring industry and excellent judgment. He commenced life dependent upon his own exertions, having been the recipient of no legacy to assist him to a competency. He takes a genuine interest in the advancement of his adopted county, being the encourager of those enterprises which shall further the interests of its people. As an ex-soldier he is a member in good standing of the G. A. R., belonging to Hickathorn Post No. 47, at Tecumseh, and politically, is an uncompromising Democrat.



DR. CARLTON K. CHUBBUCK, well known as one of the oldest practicing physicians and surgeons of Tecumseh, has followed the duties of his profession at this point and vicinity for a period of seventeen years. He is in the enjoyment of a fine patronage from the best people of this part of the county, among whom his has been a familiar figure, and whose confidence and esteem he enjoys in a marked degree. As a physician he is careful and skillful, and as a citizen has been no unimportant factor in advancing the best interests of his adopted city.

Our subject is of New England ancestry, his

father, James Chubbuck, having been born in the town of Wellington, Tolland Co., Conn., April 5, 1801. He lived there a few years after reaching manhood, then migrated to the vicinity of Orwell, in Bradford County, Pa., where he became owner of a tract of land, and carried on farming successfully until his death, which occurred Feb. 7, 1873. He became a prominent citizen of that region, holding many of its important offices, including those of Register of Deeds, Associate Justice, Supervisor, and all of the township offices. He was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiated as Class-Leader from 1837 to 1873, and Superintendent of a Sunday-school, which he organized, for a period of thirty-five years. He was also Recording Secretary of the church thirty-three years. It will thus be seen that his organ of benevolence was developed to a large degree, as these volunteer duties occupied a large portion of his time and attention.

James Chubbuck in early manhood was married to Miss Pamela Keeney, the wedding taking place in Black Walnut, Pa., in 1826. They had a family of four children, all of whom lived until the year 1887, and of whom Carlton K., our subject, was the youngest. The mother departed this life at her home in Orwell, Bradford Co., Pa., Oct. 24, 1837. Grandfather Keeney carried on general merchandising in Wyoming County, Pa. On the paternal side Nathaniel Chubbuck, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Wellington, Conn., which had been the home of the family for several generations. They were mostly farmers by occupation. The paternal grandmother, Mrs. Chloe (Eaton) Chubbuck, died Oct. 11, 1832, in Orwell, Pa., having survived her husband eight years, his death taking place in 1824. They were the parents of twelve children. Soon after the death of this worthy couple one of their children died, leaving a family of eleven—the first death occurring in the family within sixty-one years and five months. The average age of the ten sons was seventy-five years and six months, the youngest dying when over seventy-one years old.

Rev. Austin E. Chubbuck, a paternal uncle of our subject, was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, belonging to the Central New York

Conference. Rev. Francis S. belonged to the Wyoming (Pennsylvania) Conference. John is a practicing physician of Binghamton, N. Y.; Dr. H. S., of Elmira, N. Y. Rev. Nathaniel C. is a resident of Pennsylvania. These comprised the professional men among the ten sons. The others were engaged in mercantile business or farming, with the exception of Hon. Aaron Chubbuck, of Pennsylvania, who was Judge of the District Court for many years.

The subject of this sketch was born at Orwell, Bradford Co., Pa., Oct. 31, 1837. He pursued his studies in the Orwell Seminary for a time, and commenced the reading of medicine at Binghamton and Elmira, N. Y., under the instruction of two uncles, being with each about two years. He took a course of lectures in the Susquehanna Medical College at Binghamton, from which he was graduated in March, 1859. Subsequently he went to New Orleans during the prevalence of yellow fever, and was employed in the prescription department of the drug-store of the Brewer-Diver Drug Company, being thus occupied one year and nine months. Then by the advice of friends he returned North, in advance of the Rebellion, locating in Morrison, Ill.

Dr. Chubbuck contracted a matrimonial alliance with Miss Frances E. Lawton, of Dixon, Lee Co., Ill., Feb. 21, 1860. They took up their residence at Lockport, Ill., but one and one-half years later removed to Lyndon, Whiteside County, where, during a practice of five years Dr. Chubbuck built up a lucrative business. Desirous of a change, however, he removed to Dixon, Ill., and thence, in February, 1871, came to this county. Here he was at once recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability, and it was not long until he received calls from far and wide, compassing many miles. The country was comparatively new at the time of his coming here, and he has watched with the keenest interest the changes which have transformed the uncultivated land into productive farms, where at intervals have sprung up thriving villages. Dr. Chubbuck has held the office of Coroner in Johnson County for a period of thirteen years, and officiated as a Trustee of the School Board, besides occupying other responsible positions. He identified him-

self with the I. O. O. F. while a resident of Tecumseh, and has since become a member of the A. O. U. W. In religious matters he is in accord with the doctrines of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he has been a member as Trustee in Tecumseh since the time of taking up his residence here. He for five years officiated as Superintendent of the Sunday-school, and until he was obliged to withdraw on account of the pressure of other duties.

Mrs. Chubbuck is the daughter of Charles Lawton, a native of England and now deceased. She was born in Wyoming County, Pa., June 2, 1836, and accompanied her parents to Illinois in 1853, remaining with them until her marriage. Her father was born in Lincolnshire, England, and emigrated to America in 1836, settling in Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farming for seventeen years. His death occurred near Dixon, Ill., May 23, 1888, after he had reached the age of seventy-five years. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land, her death taking place in Illinois in 1856. Mr. Lawton was a second time married, and the last wife survives him. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, and a prominent worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which he was connected many years, holding its responsible offices. He was also prominent in local affairs.

To our subject and his wife there have been born four children, two only of whom are living, daughters, Jennie and Bessie. The former is the wife of Rev. P. C. Johnson, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the Nebraska Conference. Mr. and Mrs. C. have an adopted son, Joseph E., who is now eighteen years of age, and continues with his foster parents. Bessie, aged fourteen years, remains with her parents.



THOMAS GOODMAN. The 240-acre farm of this enterprising agriculturist is finely located on section 35 of Spring Creek Precinct. Upon coming to this locality, in the spring of 1875, he purchased first eighty acres for which he paid the sum of \$1,200. He began in earnest the improvement of his purchase, and assisted by a most

intelligent, sensible and industrious wife, has accumulated the present fine property, and is numbered among the leading men of his neighborhood.

Mr. Goodman has found stock-raising especially profitable, and to this industry devotes particular attention. He was reared from his youth up to habits of industry and economy, and is the descendant of substantial English ancestry, comprising honest men and virtuous women, people of temperate habits, and who generally accumulated a goodly amount of property, making comfortable homes for themselves and families.

Our subject was born in Sussex County, England, Aug. 9, 1843, and is the son of James and Esther (Highwood) Goodman, natives of the same, where they were reared, married, and where the mother lived until their son Thomas was a lad four years of age. The father died when he was a child of two years. The family then removed from Sussex to Kent County, where they sojourned probably about six years, and then Thomas, returning to Sussex, began working for himself on a farm. He was then a lad of only nine or ten years old, and employed himself at whatever he could find to do until about fifteen years old. He was a thoughtful and ambitious boy, and not making the headway he desired, resolved to seek his fortunes on the other side of the Atlantic. Engaging passage on the steamer "City of Baltimore," bound from Liverpool to New York City, he set foot upon American soil about two weeks latter, and proceeded at once westward to Wisconsin, living on a farm in Waukesha County until the outbreak of the late war.

Young Goodman, now a youth of eighteen years, and fully identified with the interests of his adopted country, proffered his service in support of the Union, and enlisted Sept. 16, 1861, in the 6th Wisconsin Battery Light Artillery, which became a part of the Army of the Tennessee. He participated in the capture of Island No. 10, was at the siege and the subsequent battle of Corinth after its evacuation, took part in the Yazoo expedition, fought at Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hills, Black River, and at the siege of Vicksburg, being at the latter place under fire for some forty-seven days. Although experiencing some hairbreadth escapes he came out of the conflict unharmed, and with his

company was transferred to the 3d Division, 15th Army Corps, being transferred from the command of Gen. McPherson to that of the late lamented Gen. Logan. Under the latter he participated in the fight at Mission Ridge, and met the enemy in various other minor engagements and skirmishes. He was always at his post for roll call, and was never confined in the hospital, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment received his honorable discharge in November, 1864.

After retiring from service Mr. Goodman returned to his old haunts in Wisconsin. His youthful experience in England had made him strong and self-reliant, although his education had been neglected, but he kept his eyes open to passing events, and we find him more intelligent and well informed than many with a more careful education. In Wisconsin, after the war, he employed himself at different occupations, having in view the establishment of a home and domestic ties, and on the 23d of November, 1865, was wedded to Miss Phebe A. Phippin, a native of Waukesha County. Mrs. Goodman was born Jan. 1, 1845, and is the daughter of Thomas and Ann (Horn) Phippin, who were natives of England. The father died in 1846 in Wisconsin, and the mother is now the wife of Worthy Luce, of Lincoln Precinct, this county. Mr. P. and his wife emigrated to America before their marriage, settling at once in Wisconsin with their parents. After marriage the father carried on millwrighting in Waukesha County until his death in December, 1847. The mother came to Nebraska after her second marriage, having been a resident of this county, now (1889) about fifteen years.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodman immediately after their marriage left Wisconsin and settled in the vicinity of Hebron, Porter Co., Ind., where Mr. G. carried on farming, and in connection therewith conducted a broom factory about four years. He then returned to the State of Wisconsin, and resided there until the spring of the year 1875, which witnessed his advent in this region. He was welcomed to this community as a worthy addition to its ranks, and has interested himself in the general welfare of the people around him and encouraging the enterprises calculated for the general good, contributing to this end as he has time and opportunity. He has

served as Moderator in this district a number of years, and uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Mr. G. has served as Sunday-school Superintendent, and is now a Class-Leader, besides filling other positions of trust.

The seven children of Mr. and Mrs. Goodman are recorded as follows: George T. was born Nov. 15, 1866; Esther A. and Arthur J. (twins) were born Nov. 9, 1870; Worthy E., Aug. 22, 1872; Joseph B., July 3, 1875; Pearl S., Dec. 18, 1877; Sophie Z., March 2, 1887.

HERMAN ERNST. Among the representative German-American citizens of Lincoln Precinct, the subject of our sketch is one most worthy of mention in a volume of this description. He is a well-to-do farmer and the owner of a well-kept and productive property of 160 acres on section 8, township 5 north, range 12 east. He was born in Hanover, Germany, on the 9th of August, 1843, and is the son of Martin F. L. and Josephine Ernst, and the second of three children born to them.

Our subject was carefully and well educated in the schools of his native country receiving especially such instruction as would fit him for the commercial world and for the position of book-keeper, which he continued to hold for eight years in connection with a large retail grocery and dry-goods establishment in Hanover. Upon making up his mind to emigrate to the United States, he took passage at Hamburg, in October, 1866, in the steamer "Saxonia," which landed him after a voyage of twenty-one days in the city of New York, whence he proceeded direct to Moline, Ill., where he began farming as a hired hand, continuing the same for three years. Leaving Moline he went to Benton County, Iowa, and there purchased a farm, which he continued successfully to operate until he removed to this county in the winter of 1872.

On coming to Nebraska our subject purchased 160 acres of land which he still owns. His marriage was celebrated on the 17th of August, 1869, when

he was allied with Mary Delfs, a compatriot. Of this union there have been born three children, viz: William H., born June 7, 1870; Josephine, Oct. 1, 1873, and Amanda, in 1874.

There were but eight acres of ground broken upon his farm at the time Mr. Ernst made his purchase. His commodious, well-built farm residence and all other improvements have been made by him, and are the effect, the cause of which must be sought in his determination to succeed and patient, persevering industry. His character is such as to command and receive the confidence and esteem of all who know him, especially such as have watched his upward progress. He has had good success in the raising of high-grade cattle and horses, and must certainly be classed among the leading stock-raisers and farmers of the precinct.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernst are old and active members of the Lutheran Church, having been connected with it from their youth. He is at present serving as Moderator of the School Board in his district and takes deep interest in the work pertaining thereto, and for thirteen years has served with much satisfaction to all concerned as School Director. In politics he is a Democrat, but is too whole souled and liberal to be bound by party or policy where they conflict with personal worth and principle.

WILLIAM C. REDFIELD is the son of the highly respected F. A. Redfield, of whom a sketch will be found upon another page of this volume. Our subject resides upon the old homestead, which is situated on section 22 of Western Precinct. He is among the most promising of young farmers and stock-raisers in the county, and because of his many personal traits and characteristics is most favorably regarded by the community.

The place of the nativity of Mr. Redfield is near Elmwood, Peoria Co., Ill., this interesting event occurring on the 30th of December, 1861. His father, Frank A. Redfield, lived there until the year 1868, when he removed to Shenandoah, Iowa, and after some wanderings and perigrinations to and fro finally settled in the spring of 1870 as stated above,

which has since continued the property of this family. The farm has by no means depreciated in value because it is under the care of our subject, nor is it any the less carefully cultivated, per contra, his ambition and enthusiasm have caused him to lend such care and labor so assiduously as to more than retain the high standard of excellency to which it had been brought by the father.

Being attracted by the graces and virtues of Mary E. Barrett, daughter of Charles Barrett, of Brookport, N. Y., and all necessary arrangements having been made, our subject was united in marriage with this lady on the 17th of June, 1885. She was born in Monroe County, N. Y., but always having lived upon a farm she is the better enabled to enter into the life of our subject and appreciate it in all its parts. She is a lady well educated, possessing much innate refinement, and has always moved in good society. Although she has never taught school she has been adjudged worthy of so doing. The lives of both Mr. and Mrs. Redfield have been more complete since their most happy union.

The subject of our sketch has not at present taken a very prominent place in the political arena, although quite capable of so doing should he desire; being a comparatively young man with a bright future before him, there is yet opportunity for him in this direction. He has always been an ardent Republican, ever ready to do what lies in his power in support of its principles.



GEORGE W. SAPP came to Nebraska when a young man, in 1867, the year it was admitted into the Union as a State, and has practically "grown up with the country." He knows all about life in pioneer days, and endured his share of the difficulties incident to prosecuting agriculture in a new section of country. He now has a good homestead on section 12, Lincoln Precinct, which he built up from the uncultivated prairie, and by untiring industry and perseverance has gained for himself a competency for his declining years.

A native of Portage County, Ohio, our subject was born Dec. 21, 1840, and is the son of Isaac and

Susan (Miller) Sapp, the father a native of Maryland, and the mother of Pennsylvania. Both were of German ancestry, and the mother's family especially of note and prominence. The parental household embraced five children, but two of whom are living, our subject and his brother Henry F., who is a resident of Nuckolls County, this State. The deceased children are Samuel, John and Loretta. The mother departed this life at their home in Johnson County, Neb., in 1879. The father survived until 1884, dying when about seventy-three years of age. He was born in 1809, and his estimable wife two years later, in 1811.

The parents of our subject, when the latter was two years old, left Ohio and took up their abode in Noble County, Ind., where the father carried on farming, and where they lived until 1856. In that year they decided to push on still further Westward, and coming to the Territory of Nebraska, settled in Nemaha County when there were few indications of a white man's presence. They battled with the elements of a new soil in that region for a period of eleven years, then came to Lincoln Precinct, this county, where they were numbered among its most highly respected citizens. Both parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and adorned their profession by their Christian walk and conversation. The father usually held some church office, and in his neighborhood as well as the home circle, proved himself ever the considerate and capable man and citizen, whose memory is held in kindly remembrance by all who knew him. He was fairly successful in business, and was a member of the Republican party from the time of its organization.

Our subject was reared to man's estate in Nemaha County, and remained a member of the parental household until his marriage, which took place Dec. 6, 1863, his bride being Miss Ellen M. Walters. Mrs. Sapp was born Sept. 28, 1847, in Sullivan County, Ill., and is the daughter of Abner and Abigail (Walters) Walters. Isaac M., the eldest son of our subject, was born Dec. 1, 1864; Charles W., Jan. 8, 1867, and Frank G., June 18, 1871.

The farm of our subject includes eighty acres of fertile land under a good state of cultivation, and upon which he has resided since his marriage. He

is the architect of his own fortune, having begun life dependent upon his own resources, receiving very little assistance from his father. Like his parents, he and his excellent wife and three boys are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he has officiated as Steward, and in which Mrs. Sapp has sought to do good as opportunity presented.



TYLER C. BAKER. The finely cultivated farm of 320 acres which embraces the north-east quarter of section 22, and the north-west quarter of section 23, in Sterling Precinct, bears the reputation of having undergone the most careful management, perhaps, of any tract in the county. In its management there have been exercised that wise judgment and forethought which have been the leading characteristics of the proprietor since the beginning of his manhood's career. A native of Franklin County, Mass., he was born Nov. 11, 1833, and lived there with his parents until reaching his majority. About that time the latter changed their residence to Berkshire County, and two years later, leaving New England, cast their lot among the people of the Great West.

The parents of our subject, when bidding adieu to their old home and associations made their way to Jackson County, Wis., their residence there dating from the winter of 1858. Our subject secured employment at lumbering, working as a subordinate a period of four years, and was then raised to the position of foreman, a post which he held for a period of sixteen years, and which indicates in a marked manner the esteem and confidence in which he was held by his employers. Mr. Baker established matrimonial and domestic ties while a resident of the Badger State, being married at the home of the bride in the little town of Columbus, Aug. 12, 1866, to Miss Betsey Russell. Mrs. Baker is a native of England, and was born in August, 1843. Her parents were also of English birth and ancestry, and emigrated to the United States in 1846, when their daughter Betsey was a little child three years of age. They also sought the West in which to

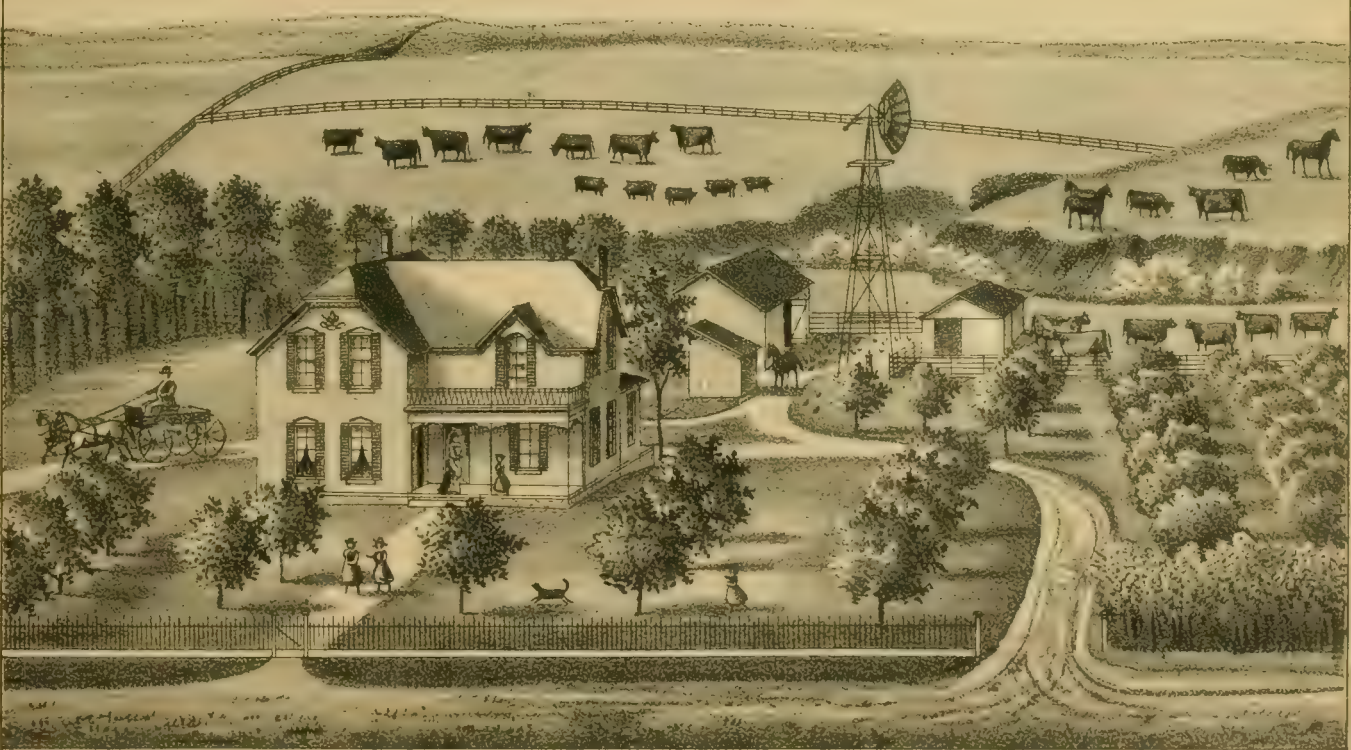
make settlement, locating in Wisconsin while it was still a Territory. Here the father, William Russell, operated as a tiller of the soil, and died at the homestead which he had labored to build up about 1858. The mother later went to live with her children in Iowa, where her death took place in 1880, after she had arrived at the age of seventy years.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker began the journey of life together in Wisconsin, and in 1883 changed their residence to this county. Their union has been blessed by the birth of five children, namely: Sabria E., Florence M., Jesse M., Hugh P. and Allan. They are all living, and residents of Johnson County. Upon his arrival in this county Mr. Baker first secured 640 acres of land, and began in a manner suited to his means and requirements the labors which have resulted in his possession of one of the most valuable estates of his township. He was soon recognized as a citizen of more than ordinary worth, and has ever been the champion of truth and justice in whatever direction his attention has been turned. He votes independently, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified for office, and has steadily refrained from placing himself ostentatiously before the people. He is guiltless of the desire for office, but was pressed into public service as Assessor of his precinct in the spring of 1885. His culture of his land has been steady and persistent, and it yields in abundance the choicest crops of Southern Nebraska. He is thus in the enjoyment of a generous income, by which he is able to surround himself and his family with all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. The farm buildings are neat and substantial, and indicate on all sides the exercise of cultivated tastes and ample means. It is a homestead which invariably attracts the attention of the passerby, forming one of the most pleasing pictures of rural life presented to the eye.

The parents of our subject, Horace and Mary A. (Curtis) Baker, were natives of the same county as their son, and made the journey from the Bay State to the wilds of Wisconsin accompanied by their five children. Of the five who survive our subject was the third in order of birth. Horace Baker, after becoming a resident of Wisconsin, was employed in various ways, and died at Black River



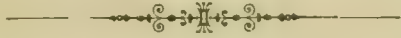
RESIDENCE OF R. F. CURRY, SEC. 21. (4-11) TODD CREEK PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF LEWIS WINTER, SEC. 30. (6-10) STERLING PRECINCT.



Falls, that State, in the fall of 1871, at the age of seventy-one years. The mother later joined her children in Iowa; she died in Sterling, in March, 1888, at the advanced age of seventy-nine.



LEWIS WINTERS, who is well and favorably known in this part of the country, was a pioneer of Johnson County, and is still actively engaged in the support of its great agricultural interests as one of the leading farmers of Sterling Precinct. The development of this county is largely due to such practical, intrepid, capable men as our subject, who, while working hard in their own interests to evolve from the wild, unbroken prairie the farms upon which they have built up comfortable homes, have at the same time advanced the growth of their respective precincts, and have taken pride in promoting the various schemes for their improvement. It is with pleasure that a view of the Winters' homestead is presented in connection with this sketch.

Mr. Winters was born in Stark County, Ill., Dec. 31, 1839, his parents being Daniel and Julia A. (Greenfield) Winters. His father was born May 12, 1812, in Luzerne County, Pa., and he died in Stark County, Ill., in December, 1860, in the midst of a useful life, in which he had gained the respect and esteem of his neighbors for his honorable character and sterling worth. The mother of our subject, a most estimable lady, now makes her home in this precinct. She was born in New York, May 24, 1814. Our subject is the second of the nine children born to his parents, of whom six survive, and the following is the family record: George, born in New York, Dec. 27, 1837; Lewis, our subject; Elizabeth, born in Stark County, Ill., June 14, 1846; Washington, born March 24, 1843, died Dec. 14, 1860; Mary, born Dec. 29, 1849; Alonzo, Aug. 29, 1852; Delonville, Feb. 17, 1853.

He of whom we write was reared and educated in his native county, attending the common schools. He was likewise married there, Aug. 25, 1868, to Miss Wiley Medearis, and of their union five children have been born, namely: Dela, now Mrs. Edward Dewyer, of Vesta Precinct, this county;

Mary, Adelaide, Nellie and Elizabeth, all of whom are living. Mrs. Winters' parents, John W. and Servilda (Barnett) Medearis, who live in Stark County, Ill., are natives of Brown County, Ohio, where the father was born July 15, 1817, and the mother, Sept. 24, 1822. The record of their children is as follows: Martin, born Sept. 17, 1840; Aurora, April 27, 1842; William, March 9, 1844; Alexander, Aug. 26, 1846; Wiley (Mrs. Winters), March 23, 1849; James, June 27, 1851; all of whom were born while their parents resided in Ohio. The remainder are: Joseph, born Dec. 7, 1853; Frank, July 21, 1856; Eliza, March 1, 1859; Frances, May 28, 1862, and Sarah, July 3, 1865. Frances and Alexander are deceased.

After marriage Mr. Winters and his young wife came to Nebraska to establish their home in Johnson County. Mr. Winters purchased the farm on which he now resides of a man who had entered it from the Government, and he then paid the remaining money due on it at the land-office, and got the patent signed by Gen. U. S. Grant. It comprises 120 acres on the northern half of the southeast quarter of section 30, and forty acres of the southeast part of the southeast quarter of section 30, and also the northeast forty of the northeast quarter of section 31. At that time there was no town where Sterling now stands, and the nearest market was at Nebraska City, which was a distance of forty miles away, where Mr. Winters used to team the produce of his farm and purchase his groceries, etc. Indians were frequent visitors in his home, and Mrs. Winters would trade coffee with them in exchange for some of their beadwork and trinkets. Mr. Winters had but \$175 when he came here, and with that he paid for his land, so that he and his family had to endure all the privations of pioneer life in a new country until they could make the farm productive of an income. But our subject was a man of action, a steady and persistent worker, with a good practical knowledge of farming, and he set to work with characteristic energy to build up his fortune from the wild prairie. He has been more than ordinarily successful in his undertakings, as is shown by his farm, one of the finest in this locality, the land under good cultivation, and 120 acres of it neatly fenced, with

an excellent set of buildings, including one of the handsomest and most commodious residences in Sterling Precinct, which was erected at a cost of \$2,000.

Mr. Winters' intelligence, enterprise and capability render him an invaluable citizen, and whenever he is called to hold public office the duties incumbent upon him are discharged with promptness and efficiency, in a manner to call for the commendations of his fellow-citizens. In him his neighbors find a friend, his family a thoughtful husband and indulgent father. Mr. Winters was elected to the office of Assessor of this precinct in the fall of 1884, and served one year. He was again elected to the same position in 1887, and still holds the office. He is a valued member of the F. & A. M., No. 70, and also of the I. O. O. F., No. 63, at Sterling. He is identified with the Republican party, having a firm faith in the correctness of its policy.



RICHARD F. CURRY. The stock-raising interests of Todd Creek and vicinity are well represented by the subject of this sketch, who owns a fine farm of 200 acres lying on sections 21 and 22. He came to this locality in the summer of 1867, first taking up 120 acres of land to which he subsequently added eighty acres. It was then a wild stretch of uncultivated prairie, and he set himself industriously to work to accomplish its development and improvement. Looking upon his valuable estate to-day it is easy to believe that he has labored with the most persevering industry, and with results which should be satisfactory to any reasonable man. The land now yields in abundance the richest crops of Nebraska, and the farm buildings are first-class in every respect, including a large and handsome residence, which would be an ornament to any town or city, and a barn and other out-buildings finely adapted to the purposes and employments of rural life. About six acres have been devoted to the planting of groves, and there is an orchard of choice apple trees, together with the smaller fruits, and everything about the premises is conducive to the comfort and happiness of the family. The fields are

enclosed with wire and hedge fencing. The land is well watered, and very little is left to run to waste, every acre being utilized either for grain or pasturage.

Our subject is of excellent Scotch ancestry, although born in County Down, Ireland, July 26, 1829. He continued a resident of his native county until a youth of eighteen years, receiving a limited education. Then, not satisfied with his condition or his prospects, he emigrated to America, and settled first in Upper Canada. He was a resident of the Dominion a period of nineteen years, occupied as a carpenter and carriage-maker, and was at times in the employ of a railroad company, doing fine upholstering for their coaches.

About the time Nebraska became a State Mr. Curry made his way across the Mississippi, landing in this county on the 28th of June, 1867, with a cash capital of \$62.50. He at once took up a tract of land, which is now included in his present farm, and since that time has made it his home. It is hardly necessary to say that he labored for years under many difficulties, practicing the most rigid economy, working early and late, and exercising the most careful management in order to gain a foothold.

The farm of Mr. Curry is now spoken of as being one of the finest in Johnson County. It is 200 acres in extent, and in addition to raising large quantities of grain our subject has of late years given much attention to fine stock, including the best grades of cattle, mostly Short-horn, having a herd of about eighty head, some full-blooded. He has a few of the Polled-Angus breed, which is gradually working its way in this county and becoming popular. Mr. Curry's stables contain principally Norman horses, he keeping usually about twenty head, including some fine imported stock. He keeps about 175 head of swine, nearly thoroughbred, and ships annually by the carload.

The farm of our subject embraces ninety acres of good pasture, while the balance is mostly in meadow and plowed ground. Not only has Mr. Curry established for himself the reputation of a first-class agriculturist, but he is a man eminently public-spirited and liberal, taking a warm interest

in those enterprises calculated to advance the welfare of the people. He has been prominent in local affairs, and in 1878 was elected a County Commissioner for the First District, to fill a vacancy, and discharged the duties of the office with such fidelity and good judgment that at the close of the term he was re-elected for the full term of three years. He has for years been a member of the School Board of his district. While Commissioner he succeeded in having a fine iron bridge built across the Nemaha at Elk Creek, and smaller bridges in other parts of the precinct. He also caused forest trees to be set out on the County Farm, besides a good orchard, and was instrumental in having an addition built to the house, an improvement which was greatly needed.

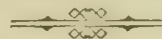
Our subject, while a resident of the Dominion, was united in marriage, Feb. 24, 1843, with Miss Pamela Libby, who was born in Upper Canada. This union has been blessed by the birth of ten children, six of whom are living, namely: Eliza, Richard J., Grace, William, Jane and George. Mrs. Curry was born Feb. 4, 1827. Her parents, William and Weltha (Townsend) Libby, were of English birth and parentage, and came to America about 1819. The father spent his last years in Quebec, Canada. The mother now lives in this precinct.

Eliza, the eldest daughter of our subject, is now the wife of P. S. Dimmock, a book-keeper of Ness City, Ness Co., Kan., who also owns a half-section of land in that State; Richard J. married Miss Orpha Craft, and is operating his own farm in Ness County, Kan.; Grace is the wife of Frank Morley, a farmer and nurseryman of Ness City; William, Jane and George are at home with their parents. These children were given a good practical education, and in their career as citizens and members of the community will reflect honor upon their home training.

Richard Curry, the father of our subject, was born and reared in the Scottish Highlands, and there married Miss Grace Carlyle. Later they removed to County Down, Ireland, where the father followed his trade of carpenter, and became owner of two good farms. He carried on agriculture extensively, giving employment to from eight to ten

men. Selling out he emigrated to Upper Canada, about 1840, and worked at his trade of carpenter until his death, which occurred about 1866, when he was seventy-eight years old. The wife and mother had preceded her husband to the silent land, her death occurring in 1864, when she was about sixty-five years old. Their family consisted of twelve children.

When Mr. Curry first settled upon the land which he now owns and occupies his nearest neighbors were a mile and a half away. He and his family lived in true pioneer style, denying themselves necessarily many modern conveniences and comforts, but probably were fully as contented and happy as the people of to-day, who have luxuries at their command. What neighbors they had were friendly and obliging, and all were solicitous for each other, both in sickness and in health. Mr. and Mrs. Curry were among the early members of the Presbyterian Church of Tecumseh, with which they identified themselves over thirty years ago, and to the support of which they have contributed in a generous degree. Our subject votes the straight Republican ticket, and keeps himself well posted upon matters of State and National interests. A view of his fine home and its surroundings is given on another page.



ROBERT HUSTON, a leading stock farmer of Nemaha Precinct, also carries on general agriculture, on 160 acres of fine farming land, occupying a portion of section 25. His homestead is embellished with modern improvements, the pasture seeded with tame grass, and the fields laid off with neat and substantial fencing, three miles of this being hedge. The corn and other grain which he raises is mainly devoted to the feeding of his stock, which is sheltered in good barns and other suitable buildings. His son, Paul B., has a good home on the same farm, provided with a residence and the other necessary buildings, put up by our subject.

The Huston family is of Irish ancestry, and Paul, the father of our subject, a native of County Derry, was born about 1785. He emigrated to America in 1790, with his parents, when a little lad five

years of age, and they settled in Pennsylvania. Paul Huston lived in Cumberland County until 1821. Thence with his family he removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, and from there in 1826 to Logan County, where he improved a good farm from a growth of heavy timber, and where, at the homestead which he had built up from the wilderness, his death occurred in 1865. He had then reached his fourscore years. He married Miss Mary Carothers, a native of Pennsylvania. Of this union there were born fourteen children, Robert, our subject, being the third, and twelve lived to mature years. The wife and mother, who was born in 1801, died at her home in Ohio in 1872. She was the daughter of Andrew Carothers, a steady-going Pennsylvania farmer, who spent his last years in Pennsylvania. Paul Huston and his wife identified themselves with the Presbyterian Church, in which the father was particularly active, being one of its Ruling Elders for many years, and Superintendent of the Sunday-school as far back as the earliest recollection of his son Robert. In fact he was a prominent man, capable, industrious and enterprising, and held many positions of trust and responsibility, besides serving as Justice of the Peace for many years.

Robert Huston was born in Hamilton County, Ohio, Oct. 23, 1822. He was four years of age when his parents removed to Logan County, where he lived until 1872. He acquired a good practical education, fitting himself for a teacher, which profession he followed from the time he was seventeen years for a period of thirty years thereafter, with the exception of two years spent in the army. During this time he was the examiner of teachers for the county schools of Logan County ten years, and served as Justice of the Peace three years. At that period of his life he owned and occupied a farm near Bellefontaine, Ohio, and although not laboring upon it, superintended its operations.

The second year of the Rebellion, Mr. Huston, on the 6th of August, 1862, enlisted in Company H, 96th Ohio Infantry, and was much of the time assigned to the duties of Hospital Steward. He was with his regiment during the siege of Vicksburg and the battle of Arkansas Post. After this he was discharged for disability, and after recover-

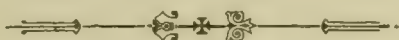
ing his health he re-entered the service as a member of Company E, 132d Ohio Infantry, and was mustered out in October, 1864. This regiment served in Virginia, between Richmond and Petersburg, and our subject was frequently under fire. Although receiving no wounds, he suffered greatly from hardship and privation, from the effects of which he has never recovered.

Upon retiring from the service Mr. Huston resumed teaching and made his home upon his farm until 1872. He then sold out and purchased a farm in Champaign County, Ohio, where he lived until the spring of 1880. Then selling out once more he crossed the Mississippi, and after looking around in the vicinity of Tecumseh, purchased the land which he now occupies, at \$25 per acre. Since that time he has been continuously employed in its improvement and cultivation, and has four acres of forest, besides a good apple orchard and the smaller fruits. He is mostly living retired from active labor, and sitting under his own vine and fig tree is enjoying the fruits of his early industry.

Mr. Huston, on the 28th of September, 1843, was united in marriage with Miss Jane Campbell, of Logan County, Ohio, and to them there were born nine children, only five of whom are living. The eldest son, William H., was graduated from the Ohio Medical College at Cincinnati, and entered upon a successful practice in Scipio, Ind. He married Miss Sena McKenny, of Mason, Ohio, and they became the parents of two children—Sarah P. and William P. The career of this promising citizen was cut short at the age of thirty-seven years, his death occurring in November, 1882, at his home in Scipio, Ind. Miss Nancy Huston was married to John Zeigler, a boot and shoe merchant and manufacturer, of Champaign County, Ohio, and died in 1872, leaving one child, a son, Charles H. The surviving children of our subject are John A., George S., Noah R., Mary and Paul B. These are all married, and are all in Nebraska except one son who resides in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Huston are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. H. has been a Ruling Elder for some time, like his father before him.

John A. Huston married Miss Susan McDonald, of Seymour, Ind., and is engaged as a photographic

artist in Auburn, this State; George married Miss Nettie Calland, is farming in Champaign County, Ohio, and is the father of four children—Samuel, Robert, Mary F. and an infant; Noah married Miss Jennie West, of Ohio, and they have two children—Grace and Charles; they are living in Johnson County, Neb. Mary is the wife of John L. Jacka, a native of Cornwall, England, and a well-to-do farmer and land-owner of Nemaha Precinct; they have two children—Clifton J. and Paul. Paul B. married Miss Lillian Ashley, of Tecumseh; they have one child, a son, Arthur, and are living on a farm in the vicinity of Tecumseh. It will thus be seen that our subject is the grandfather of twelve children, a fact of which he is quite proud. Mrs. Jane (Campbell) Huston, the wife of our subject, was born July 9, 1821, and is the daughter of William and Nancy (Robertson) Campbell, of Rockingham County, Va. She lived there until ten years of age, then removed with her parents to Logan County, Ohio, where she continued to reside until her marriage. Her parents were natives of Virginia and spent their last years in Ohio. Their family consisted of six children. Only two are now living.



ALBERT H. DOLLARHIDE, a veteran of the Mexican War, who worthily represents the industrial interests of Sterling as a prosperous and well-to-do farmer and butcher, was an early settler of this city, coming here in 1872, when it was a small, insignificant place, with but few houses and scarcely any business. He may well feel proud of the fact that he has aided in its development, and is still contributing to its material prosperity.

Mr. Dollarhide was born in Marion County, Ind., in 1825, his parents being Absalom and Lottie (Brown) Dollarhide, natives of North Carolina. His grandfather, Asel, was born in Scotland, whence he went to England, and then came to the United States, spending his last years in Marion County, Ind. When our subject was about ten years old his parents removed to Louisa County, Iowa, where they died in 1852 and 1853 respec-

tively. They were people whose sober, industrious habits and genuine worth of character rendered them invaluable members of the community where they spent their last years, and the highest respect was accorded to them. They had seven children, of whom our subject was the fifth. He was reared in Iowa, and was there married, Sept. 17, 1849, to Miss Nancy A. Wornstaff, a native of Iowa, and a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Wilkinson) Wornstaff. Nine children were born of that marriage, of whom seven are living, all married but one, and settled in life.

Previous to his marriage our subject served in the Mexican War for about a year, from 1847 to 1848, proving to be an able and courageous soldier. In 1872 he came to Nebraska, accompanied by his family, and purchased eighty acres of land adjoining the town of Sterling, forty acres of which is still in his possession. He paid \$1,200 for the entire tract, and in 1875 sold forty acres of it for \$1,000 cash, thus making 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ per cent. on the original cost. Immediately after coming here Mr. Dollarhide turned his attention to farming and butchering. In the latter he has built up an extensive trade, which he conducts with good profit. In the meantime he has not neglected his farm, but has been constantly improving it, so that it is under good culture, and has a good house, barn and other necessary buildings, besides a good orchard. His home is comfortable and cozy, and supplied with all the conveniences of modern life.

Our subject has been twice married. The wife of his early manhood died in 1873, leaving behind her the record of a good life, and her memory is cherished by many friends. She was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, as are also Mr. Dollarhide and his present wife. Mr. Dollarhide's second marriage, which took place in November, 1882, was to Mary E. Hutchison, a lady well meriting the respect of her family and friends, which is called forth by her numerous good qualities.

Mr. Dollarhide is honorable in his dealings, and upright in his daily walk, and the confidence of his fellow-citizens is accorded to him freely. He is prominently identified with the Sterling Lodge No. 70, F. & A. M., having been one of the seven charter

members when the lodge was instituted in 1875. In his politics he is a staunch Republican, and has been ever since the formation of the party, having been a Whig before that. When Mr. Dollarhide first came here he had his share of pioneer hardships and discouragements, he having been one of the few that were in this locality in 1873, when the grasshoppers took possession of the harvest fields and made way with the crops.



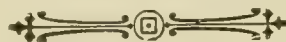
ALEXANDER EATON is one of the well-known citizens and farmers of Spring Creek Precinct. He is the owner of 160 acres on section 33, township 6 north, range 12 east. He was born in County Antrim, in the North of Ireland, on the 6th of August, 1830, and is the son of James and Mary Eaton, natives of that district, but of Scottish descent. There were seven children born to his parents, he being the fifth child and second son in the family. He was educated and brought up in his native country, where he continued to reside until he attained to man's estate. After leaving school, where he received good training, he engaged in farming, in which he became quite an expert and thoroughly capable.

Before coming to this country our subject was married. This event took place on the 6th of April, 1860, the lady who then united her life's interests with his being Margaret Beggs, the estimable daughter of Hugh and Mary (Patton) Beggs. She was born March 5, 1837, in County Antrim, and until her marriage lived with her parents. To our subject and wife there have been born eight children, and the following are their names: James, Hugh, John, Eliza, Margaret, Matilda, Sara and Mary J.

Giving up his farm in 1879, accompanied by his family, Mr. Eaton took passage at the port of Larne, County Antrim, on the northeastern coast of Ireland, and came to the United States in the steamship "Alabama," one of the State Line boats. Fourteen days sufficed for the ocean trip, and they landed at New York in October of that year. From the port of disembarkation they proceeded at once to Henry County, Ill., where they remained a few

months, after which they came on to this county, where 160 acres of land was purchased, for which he paid at the rate of \$5 per acre. Practically it was an unimproved tract at the time of settlement, but is now one of the best improved farms in the county.

Our subject has served his school district as Director for four years, and was the first to be elected to the office after its organization. He has always taken an active, untiring interest in school matters, and in fact in all matters that look to the advancement of the interests of the community. Politically, he is a staunch Republican and has been from the first. With his wife, he is accorded hearty welcome in every circle of society, and enjoys the confidence and regard of the community. They take true interest as members of the Presbyterian Church in the matters connected therewith, and are of those who endeavor to make their profession and daily conduct synonymous.



PROF. WILLIAM H. GARDNER, Superintendent of the city schools of Tecumseh, and Principal of the High School, is a very useful factor in his community, and has in charge those interests which are second to none. The educational system of Tecumseh consists of a High School and two ward schools. The former gives employment to six teachers besides the Principal, and inasmuch as the facilities for education determine in a large measure the standing of the community, Tecumseh has reason to be proud of her achievements in this line.

The subject of this sketch became a resident of Tecumseh in the fall of 1885, when he entered upon the duties of his present position, which he has since discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to the people, as evinced by their annual invitation for him to continue. A native of Lee County, Ill., he was born July 19, 1855, and there continued to live until reaching his majority. After being carefully educated in the schools of Illinois he entered upon the duties of his chosen profession as a teacher of a district school in his native county, and later taught two years at Elizabeth,

Jo Daviess Co., Ill. He was next located at Hanover, where he officiated as Principal of the High School.

Prof. Gardner first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in July, 1881, taking up his residence first in Pawnee City, where he was Superintendent and Principal of the schools for a period of four years. In the meantime the High School under his charge increased greatly in numbers, and he graduated its first class in June, 1885. So successful had been his management, and his prospects for the future so encouraging, he purchased town lots and put up a dwelling, establishing a pleasant and attractive home. In 1879 he invested in land in Pawnee County. He has a farm of 225 acres in Mission Creek Precinct, which he built up from a tract which had been comparatively uncultivated. For a time this was devoted to stock-raising, but there is now raised upon it quantities of grain each year.

In the fall of 1885 Prof. Gardner changed his residence to Tecumseh to enter upon the duties of his present position. He devotes his entire time and attention to his educational work, and is a leading light in the cultured social circles of this place. Religiously, he is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. About 1888 he identified himself with the Masonic fraternity. He is also a K. of P., and has held various offices therein. He takes little interest in politics further than casting his vote with the Republican party, and has not the remotest desire for office.

The lady who has presided with grace and dignity over the home of our subject for the last ten years was in her girlhood Miss Lizzie Nesbitt, and was married to Prof. Gardner in Hanover, Ill., July 3, 1878. Mrs. Gardner was born at Hanover, June 5, 1858, and is the daughter of John and Jane (Moffatt) Nesbitt. John Nesbitt was born in County Monaghan, Ireland, was of Scotch descent, and emigrated to America when a young man twenty-one years old. He settled near the then unimportant village of Hanover, and engaged in farming, residing there for a period of forty years. In the spring of 1883 he crossed the Mississippi, and taking up his residence in Pawnee City, this State, is now living in retirement upon a competence.

Both he and his excellent wife are members of the United Presbyterian Church, in which Mr. Nesbitt has officiated as Senior Elder and been one of its chief pillars in Illinois. To our subject and his wife there have been born two daughters and two sons, namely: Gertrude, Minnie, John and Charles.

Joseph Gardner, the father of our subject, was born in Steuben County, N. Y., July 9, 1822, and there lived until twenty-one years of age, acquiring a good education. Thence he removed to Lee County, Ill., where he first taught school, and subsequently purchased a tract of land, which he improved into a good farm and occupied until moving to Colorado. He engaged quite extensively in stock-raising, and was a prominent man in his community, officiating as Justice of the Peace for many years. In 1878 he removed to Del Norte, where he is still living, and dealing in real estate. The mother, Mrs. Hannah M. (Shaw) Gardner, was a native of Erie County, N. Y., and the parents were married in Lee County, Ill., in 1851. Of the seven children born to them, five are still living, and residents mostly of Colorado.

Grandfather William Shaw was one of the well-to-do farmers of Lee County, Ill. The paternal grandfather of our subject was a native of New York State, and a farmer by occupation.

Prof. Gardner has a pleasant home in Tecumseh, and hosts of friends. He keeps himself well posted in regard to modern methods of instruction, is an extensive reader and thoroughly devoted to his work, in which he takes pride, and in which he excels.

WALTER C. ATKINS, a citizen of Sterling, is one of the leading stockmen and agriculturists of Johnson County, and is engaged with his brother in raising and dealing in blooded horses. He is a native of Livingston County, Ill., July 23, 1852, being the date of his birth. He grew to manhood in his native county, receiving a sound education in the public schools, and from his father a practical training in agricultural pursuits.

The parents of our subject, John and Lucy (Gillett) Atkins, had seven children, of whom he and

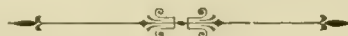
his brother A. B. and two of his sisters, Mrs. Flora Bridges and Mrs. William Eames, are the only ones living in Nebraska. One sister, Mrs. A. A. Potter, lives in Kansas, and one sister, Mrs. Dr. Miller, lives in Massachusetts; his brother J. H. is in California.

Our subject staid at home and assisted his father on the old homestead until after he was twenty-one years old. He was then united in marriage to Miss Mary Putman, their wedding occurring Dec. 25, 1873. Mrs. Atkins is a daughter of William and Mary E. (Chambers) Putman. Her father died in Vermilion County, Ill. Her mother still survives, and makes her home with her. At the time of his marriage Mr. Atkins' father gave him a team of horses and a wagon, and his wife having a farm of 160 acres, they began their wedded life with fair prospects of a successful issue, as they also brought youthful health, sound intelligence, and unlimited energy, to bear upon the problems that would confront them upon their way. Mr. Atkins continued to engage in farming in Illinois until the spring of 1883. He then disposed of his interests in his native State, having decided to invest his money in Nebraska, and on its rich soil build up a new home. He selected Johnson County as a suitable location, where he could advantageously carry out his plans, and soon purchased a farm on section 1, township 5, range 9, situated about three miles south of Sterling. Some of the land had been broken, but there were no other improvements on the place. Mr. Atkins immediately entered upon the arduous task of evolving a fine farm from the wild prairie, and the few years that he lived there witnessed a great change brought about by his steady and well-directed industry. He erected a substantial dwelling, barn and other necessary buildings; planted an orchard of choice fruit trees, fenced his land and stocked it with good grades of cattle. He now has 640 acres of land in three different tracts, all well improved, and also owns his home in Sterling.

In the fall of 1887 Mr. Atkins moved into the city with his family in order to engage with his brother in handling blooded horses. They have three fine, thoroughbred stallions, which they imported at a cost of \$4,500, and are doing an extensive business. Mr. and Mrs. Atkins have established a charming and attractive home here, and the four children

who have been born of their marriage complete the pleasant household circle, viz: Willie E. and Winnie E. (twins), Fern and Clark.

Mr. and Mrs. Atkins and their two eldest children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and ever since they came here they have been among the most active in promoting the cause of religion in this community, and they are foremost in every good work. Mr. Atkins is Superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with his church, and under his influence it is growing in numbers and strength. Our subject takes an intelligent interest in political affairs, and is in full sympathy with the Republican party. He was elected Justice of the Peace for this precinct last fall, and is performing the duties of this office to the satisfaction of the public. This brief record of his life will show Mr. Atkins to be a man of rare energy and stability of character, whose every act is honest and straightforward, whose relations with society, the church and the home win the highest respect of those about him.



JACOB ALDER. The farm of the subject of this biography is pleasantly located on section 21, Helena Precinct, of which he has been a resident for the past five years. He has carried on agriculture successfully and made a specialty of stock-raising, keeping good grades of cattle, horses and swine.

A native of Franklin County, Ohio, our subject was born March 22, 1835, and is the son of Paul and Sarah (Francis) Alder, who are supposed to have been natives of Virginia. The grandparents on both sides of the house, it is known, were natives of the Old Dominion. Grandfather Jonathan Alder at an early day was captured by Indians, supposed to have been the Wyandottes, and lived with them for a period of twenty-four years. He spent his last days in Ohio.

To the parents of our subject there were born eight children, four of whom are living, namely: Jonathan, a resident of Fulton County, Ill.; Alma, Mrs. M. Ronan, of Fairfield, Iowa; Hester, Mrs. Thomas Ronan, of Osceola, Iowa, and Jacob, of our

sketch. The father died at the homestead in Missouri about 1849, when middle aged. The mother survived her husband a period of thirty-five years, remaining a widow, and passing away at the home of her daughter, in Iowa, in the fall of 1884.

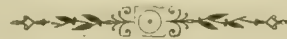
Our subject was a little lad not quite five years of age when his parents, leaving his native State, crossed the Mississippi into Carroll County, Mo., where he lived until a youth of sixteen years. Then with his mother and other members of the family he returned to Fulton County, Ill., where he attained his majority and engaged in agricultural pursuits, to which he had been accustomed from his boyhood. His education was necessarily somewhat limited, having spent his boyhood in a region where the schools were conducted about three months in the year, during the winter season. He has always availed himself, however, of instructive books and newspapers, and kept himself well informed in regard to current events. Leaving Illinois in the spring of 1871 he came to this county, and purchased the farm which he has since owned, paying therefor \$1,100. This land comprised 160 acres, and has been cultivated since the time Mr. Alder came to Nebraska, although he did not settle upon it until April, 1882, having had his home prior to this on section 17.

There had been little attempt at improvement at the time Mr. Alder purchased this land, there having been only thirty-seven acres broken, and upon it were no buildings. It is hardly necessary to state that it has taken years of persistent labor and a considerable outlay of money to bring the farm to its present condition. It now bears fair comparison with the homesteads around it. In addition to this property associated with the Alder estate there are eighty acres on section 17, the property of Mrs. Alder. This lady was prior to her marriage with our subject Mrs. Matilda Cox, and they were married at Knoxville, Nov. 21, 1872. Henry Cox, the first husband of Mrs. Alder, was one of the earliest pioneers of this county, having come to Helena Precinct about 1867 and homesteading the land which he left to his widow. He died shortly after his settlement here in the spring of 1872. Mrs. Alder was born in Ross County, Ohio, Oct. 13, 1847, and is the daughter of Golds-

bary and Phebe (Loveloss) Holloway, who were natives of Virginia. Her maternal grandfather, William Loveloss, was a soldier of the Revolutionary War under the direct command of Gen. Washington. When Mrs. Alder was seven years old her parents, leaving the Buckeye State, removed to Knox County, Ill., during its early settlement, and where the mother still lives. Mr. Holloway departed this life in October, 1885, in Illinois.

To Mr. and Mrs. Holloway there were born eleven children, and of the eight surviving the record is as follows: John continues a resident of Knox County, Ill.; Minerva is the wife of Peter Bombarger, of Helena Precinct, this county; Armal; Mrs. Alder was the next in order of birth; Jonathan is a resident of Knox County, Ill.; David is married, and holds the position of Superintendent of the Poor Farm of this county; Nelson and Lon are living in Knox County.

Mr. and Mrs. Alder came to Nebraska in ample time to form an acquaintance with the hardships and difficulties of life in a new settlement, and have witnessed many changes since their arrival in this county. Our subject has signalized himself as a liberal-minded and public-spirited citizen, giving his cordial encouragement to the enterprises calculated for the good of the people. He votes the straight Democratic ticket, but cares so little for office, that upon being elected Justice of the Peace in 1887 he failed to qualify, making no effort to assume the office. He has, however, served as Assessor of Helena Precinct three years. To Mr. and Mrs. Cox there were born four children, three of whom died in infancy. The survivor, a son, Walter, now nineteen years of age, lives at the homestead.



ROBERT M. ERWIN is one of the well-to-do agriculturists and stock farmers of Lincoln Precinct, and owns 170 acres of valuable land, situated on sections 13 and 18, range 11 east, township 5, range 12 north. He was born on the 21st of November, 1847, to Peter and Mary Erwin, at their home in Northumberland County, Pa., in which State the family had been resident for three generations. The great-grand-

father of our subject came from Scotland, his native country, to America in the year 1775. Subsequently he participated in the cause of liberty in the War of Independence.

To the parents of our subject were born ten children, seven of whom are living, viz: Christopher G., now in Denver, Colo.; Sarah K., the wife of Sebastian Detsch, of Mariposa County, Colo.; Alem B., of Nuckolls County, Neb.; our subject; John E. and Charles N., of Logan County, Kan., and Daniel R., of Nuckolls County, Neb. Those deceased are: William P., who was killed in the charge at Mission Ridge; he was at the time an Orderly Sergeant in Company E, 93d Illinois Infantry; Alfred I. and Mary J.

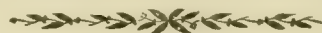
When about four years of age our subject removed with his parents to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where they resided a number of years, removing from there to Whiteside County, where they made their home for three years. At the end of that period, and in the year 1865, they migrated to this State, and for a short time staid in Nebraska City. In 1867 they located permanently in this county, although several years before the father had become the owner of property here. In 1866 our subject went to Denver, Colo., remaining there for two and a half years. He then went to Laramie City, Wyo., returning to Nebraska in the fall of 1871.

On Christmas Day of the year 1873 our subject was joined in wedlock with Ada E., the estimable daughter of Elihu P. Phillips. (See sketch of that gentleman upon another page.) There have come to Mr. and Mrs. Erwin seven children, whose names are recorded as follows: Angie M., born Jan. 12, 1875; Minnie C., Aug. 16, 1877; Robert P., Feb. 8, 1880; Hattie and Jennie M. (twins), Sept. 16, 1883; George A., Aug. 4, 1885, and Arthur C., May 10, 1887.

The farm of our subject comprises 170 acres of well-cultivated and highly productive land. In connection with his farm he is running a sorghum mill, in which he manufactures 800 gallons per season. He owns forty head of stock of grade varieties, and has had no little success in the raising and feeding of cattle.

Mr. and Mrs. Erwin are both members of the

First Baptist Church of Tecumseh, and take an active interest in religious and general society matters. Our subject has been Treasurer of the church, and is greatly respected in that connection. He has served his district as Overseer of Highways, and is now Treasurer of the School Board of District No. 19, and in the fall of 1867 he was a candidate for the Legislature of his district. In politics he is affiliated with the Union Labor party. He holds membership also in the A. O. U. W., meeting with the lodge at Tecumseh. He is an intelligent, whole-souled and honorable gentleman, and this is generally recognized throughout the community, consequently there is accorded to him and his family general unfeigned regard.



CYRUS S. PHILLIPS, the owner of a beautiful farm on section 27 in Nemaha Precinct, some 300 acres in extent, and as this property evidences, a very able and energetic agriculturist, was born in Richland, Oswego Co., N. Y., on the 18th of April, 1828. There he made his home until 1845, and in the schools of his native place received his education. In the latter year his parents removed to Waukegan, Lake Co., Ill., at that time known as Little Fort. There his father purchased a farm and lived until his death, which occurred in 1848, after which his widow and our subject continued until the year 1857, operating it as before. There were five other children in the family at that time, Mr. Phillips, however, being the eldest and of sufficient age and experience to run the farm, to him fell the task of, as far as was possible, filling his father's place in the maintenance of the farm and home. These years were by no means easy to him, but they have undoubtedly left their imprint upon his character, and the struggle which at the time seemed so hard has fallen out for his good and advancement. In 1857 he sold the farm and left the district, having lost all he had saved until that time through becoming surety for a friend. He was married, on the 12th day of November of the year 1856, to Miss Abbie Childs, of LaFayette, Walworth Co., Wis. There has been given to them one beautiful daughter, who

received the name Lottie, and still resides at home. She received the advantage of an excellent education, and her home training has been all that could be desired.

Upon leaving Lake County Mr. Phillips removed to McLean County, where he continued to make his home for about four years, then went to Linn County, Iowa, where he continued successfully from a financial standpoint. Here he remained until 1870, and then removed to Tecumseh, where he has resided ever since. He purchased the land he now owns while still in all the wild beauty of its virgin state and immediately began to work upon it, improving it as rapidly as he was able until all was brought into a good state of cultivation, and as both his theoretical and practical knowledge of farming are beyond the average he made rapid and most gratifying progress. To-day, without a doubt, it is one of the finest and best farms in the country. He has planted a very fine grove of trees, adding much to the beauty of his property. His orchard is both extensive, valuable and fruitful. Much attention has been given to the raising of hogs, cattle and horses for a number of years past, and considerable and unusual success has attended him in this venture. About sixty acres of corn is required for feed purposes alone each year, from which it will be seen that as a cattle and general stock raiser he is among those having large interests at stake.

Mr. Phillips is one of the prominent substantial men of Tecumseh, and was elected County Treasurer on the Granger ticket in the election of 1873. His political principles, however, have always been those of the Republican party. His first Presidential ballot was given in favor of Fremont. While County Treasurer he made his home in the town and also while serving on the Board of Aldermen, continuing in all six years, in order that in addition to the better execution of official duties his daughter might have the full advantage of the superior educational facilities. Both in this district and in his more eastern home he has filled the office of Justice of the Peace. He served on the County Board of McLean County, Ill., and for six years was a member of the School Board of Tecumseh.

Mrs. Abbie C. Phillips was born in Saratoga

County, N. Y., on the 4th of May, 1839. This was her home until the year 1846, when, with her parents, she migrated to Wisconsin, where she resided until the time of her marriage. She is the daughter of William and Susan (Dake) Childs. Her parents were natives of Saratoga County. The occupation of Mr. Childs was a farmer. The family included five children, all of whom attained their majority and entered upon successful careers. He was of retiring disposition, and although frequently urged to accept office steadfastly refused to do so, with one exception, viz: that of Justice of the Peace, which he retained for one term. He was a well educated man and a prominent member of the Baptist communion, of which he had been a member from his youth, but even in the church and though ever ready and willing to engage actively as a worker, would have nothing to do with official positions. He departed this life March 18, 1865, his wife surviving him but a few days.

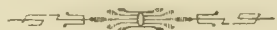
Mr. Childs was the son of the Hon. Salmon Childs, one of the heroes of Colonial and Revolutionary days. He was a member of the New York Legislature, and for some years Judge of Saratoga County. He occupied a very high place in the regard of the people, among whom he occupied a prominent position. His son William was a Whig, and had drunk deeply of the spirit, ideas and political principles of his father, for whom he entertained great affection and intense admiration, sentiments and feelings which he has handed down to his daughter. He was deeply interested and actively engaged in the campaign of Gen. Harrison. To his daughter he taught the campaign song: "Tippecanoe and Tyler too" which she has recently had republished.

Moses Phillips, the father of our subject, was born in the town of Rupert, Bennington Co., Vt., and was left fatherless when but five months old, and at a very early age was thrown entirely upon his own resources. He was thus deprived of the usual educational opportunities afforded those who have the protecting, guiding care of parents. He, however, possessed much natural ability, and as he came to realize the necessity of mental training worked hard to that end, and made himself thoroughly well informed upon all general and practical

subjects, and occupied a high position in the regard of his neighbors and friends. He was a man of fine character, and had the reputation of being pre-eminently a peacemaker.

While residing in his native county Moses Phillips became the husband of Charlotte Ransom, a native of the same State. They moved to Oswego County. He was the owner of a good farm in Richland, Oswego County, one and one-half miles from the village of Pulaski and six miles from Lake Ontario. Their family included eight children, six of whom grew to years of maturity. This gentleman died at Waukegan, Ill., in 1848, after a residence in that place of about three years. His wife lived upon the farm he had bought near that place for two years, supporting her family by her own exertions during that period, when she remarried, becoming Mrs. Whitman, after which she removed to her new home at Honey Creek. Being again left a widow she was once more married, her husband being Ephraim Townsend, a native of New York, but residing near Barrington, Ill. She departed this life on the 1st of September, 1863.

Elihu Phillips, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Connecticut, and went through the Revolutionary War. Shortly after the close thereof he was married to Miss Elizabeth Spears, and made his home in Bennington County, Vt., where his family of nine children was brought up. There he died while yet comparatively a young man. His widow survived him many years, living to quite an advanced age. She finished the task of rearing her children, in which she had fondly hoped to have her husband's continued assistance, and it was her joy to see them enter upon careers at once honorable and successful.



WARREN S. DILWORTH, foreman of the Chicago Lumber Company, at Crab Orchard, a very capable and enterprising business man, is a native of Kentucky, born Dec. 23, 1841. His father, Lindsay Dilworth, was born in Guilford County, N. C., and his mother, Sarah (Simpson) Dilworth, was a native of the same place. Their family consisted of four children, of whom

two only are living, our subject and his sister, Emily J., the wife of Green T. Simpson, who is working at the harness business in Adams, Gage Co., Neb.

The parents of our subject removed from North Carolina to Brant County, Ky., and from the Blue Grass regions to Pike County, Ill., in the spring of 1857, and there Warren S. continued with them until nearly attaining his majority. On the 31st of July, 1862, he was united in marriage with Miss Tabitha A. Walker. In September following the two families came to Nebraska, and after a sojourn of a few weeks in Table Rock located on a tract of land one-half mile west of the present site of Crab Orchard. The late Civil War being in progress, young Dilworth laid aside his personal plans and enlisted in Company G, 8th Illinois Infantry, but on account of physical disability was compelled to accept his honorable discharge in less than a year. He encountered much hardship and exposure, and now receives a pension of \$10 per month from the Government.

Mr. Dilworth after coming to Nebraska never recrossed the Missouri River, his residence in this county dating from November, 1862. He was Postmaster at Crab Orchard from 1864 to 1867, and from the fall of 1868 to the fall of 1885. He was then removed on account of being a Republican. He takes a great interest in the temperance cause, believes in prohibition and every other measure which shall tend to insure the well-being of society. The tract of land upon which he first settled when coming to this county has been transformed into one of its finest farms, and lying adjacent to the town of Crab Orchard, is quite valuable. A fine residence and substantial out-buildings add to the general attractiveness of the home, and indicate the cultivated tastes and ample means of the proprietor. The old Otoe Indian trail, leading from the reservation in Nebraska City, passes west of this farm.

To Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth there was born one child only, a son, James M., May 4, 1863; he is a promising young business man and proprietor of the only jewelry store in Crab Orchard. In 1886 he was married to Miss Emma V. Beatty, and they have one child, Ruby Elfa, who was born Feb. 23, 1888.

who has now two great-grandfathers and two great-grandmothers, and also two grandfathers and one grandmother, all living in the vicinity of Crab Orchard. Mr. Dilworth has officiated as Assessor of Western Precinct two terms. Religiously, he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and labored as a local preacher in years gone by, having traveled over a circuit two years. He belongs to the G. A. R., Post No. 69, at Crab Orchard. His farm comprises 120 acres of land, and he has four town lots in Crab Orchard. He operated his farm until 1884. He entered upon the duties of his present position with the Chicago Lumber Company in June, 1883. He retains his residence on the farm, but rents the land to tenants. Included in the family circle is a young lady, Miss Ida E. Clawson, whom Mr. and Mrs. Dilworth took into their hearts and home when she was a motherless babe of ten months, and with whom she has since remained. She was born Nov. 13, 1874, in Filley, Gage Co., this State. Her mother was killed by lightning at her home in the vicinity of Filley.



JOHNSON DERR, of Maple Grove Precinct, has for the last twenty-one years prosecuted agriculture successfully on the northwest quarter of section 2, where he owns 280 acres of choice land. He is of German descent, his father, Boston Derr, having been born in Germany. His mother, however, whose maiden name was Mary Bradbury, was born in Scotland.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America in their youth, settling in Indiana, and the father, during the Indian troubles of 1840, served as a soldier under Gen. Harrison. Upon returning to civil life he engaged in farming. Both parents died in middle life, when their son John was but a small boy. Their family consisted of five children, three sons and two daughters, all of whom are living, and those besides our subject are residents of the different States.

John Derr, the fourth child of his parents, was born in Parke County, Ind., Feb. 28, 1828. After

the death of his parents he became a member of the family of James Strain, with whom he lived until a youth of eighteen years. In the meantime he learned the trade of tanner, which he followed until reaching his majority, in Indiana. He then migrated to Cass County, Ill., and worked at his trade about six years in Tannersville and vicinity. Later he engaged in farming in connection with his trade, and lived in Illinois until the fall of 1867.

When twenty-four years of age Mr. Derr was united in marriage with Miss Matilda Hickey, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride near Chantersville, Ill., in February, 1852. This lady was the daughter of James and Lutitia (Wilson) Hickey, who were natives of Bunker Hill, Tenn. They were the parents of four sons and four daughters, three only of whom are living, the two besides Mrs. D. being residents of Kansas and Illinois respectively. The family, about 1830, moved to Cass County, Ill., where the death of Mrs. Hickey took place in 1862, and that of her husband a year later.

Mrs. Derr is a native of the same place as her parents, Bunker Hill, Tenn., and was born Nov. 15, 1829. She accompanied her parents to Cass County, Ill., and lived with them there until her marriage. Mr. Derr, besides carrying on the regular cultivation of the soil, has planted ten acres of forest trees, and has an orchard of 237 fruit trees in good bearing condition. Mrs. Derr, for a period of eleven weeks after coming to this county, never saw the face of a white woman. Their neighbors were very few and far between. She was consequently not annoyed by neighborhood gossip, or made unhappy over the fashions. The country around abounded in wild game, buffalo, deer and antelope being plentiful, so whatever their larder might have lacked in other respects, they were always supplied with choice wild meat.

Mr. Derr labored early and late in redeeming his land from its primitive condition, and was prospered. He added to his real estate, and the land for which he paid \$5 per acre could now scarcely be purchased for five times that sum. He has a good residence, barns and outhouses, and a fair assortment of live stock, including horses, cattle and swine. Life's comforts and enjoyments have been meted out to him in a generous manner, as

the reward of his toil and sacrifices. The home circle was completed by the birth of six sons: Calvin J. is engaged at farming in Bates County, Mo.; John H. carries on farming in Maple Grove Precinct, this county; James, Alonzo, Joseph C. and Charles are at home with their parents.

Mr. Derr, when a lad of about thirteen years, proudly carried a musket under Gen. Harrison during the Indian troubles of 1840. He cast his first Presidential vote for Zachary Taylor, and has since that time been a staunch supporter of Republican principles. He has never been an office-holder in Johnson County, but with his excellent wife is a member in good standing of the United Brethren Church, although reared a Presbyterian. He is a strict temperance man, never indulging in card playing, whisky or tobacco. In his comfortable home, surrounded by the good things of life, and enjoying the confidence and esteem of his neighbors, he is but enjoying the regard which he has earned by an honorable and upright career.



SAMUEL BERRIE, one of the worthy and representative citizens of Lincoln Precinct, residing on section 30, township 5 north, range 12 east, and owner of 200 acres there, is a native of Bucks County, Pa., where he was born on the 30th of August, 1815. His parents, Thomas and Susan Berrie, were of English and German ancestry. They were the parents of eleven children, of whom the four below mentioned alone survive, viz: Peter and Moses, both in Montgomery County, Ill.; Elizabeth, who was married to E. R. White, a Mexican War veteran, now deceased; and our subject. Those deceased were named as follows: George, Hannah, Susan, Thomas, William, Catharine and John. By the father's second marriage four children were born, viz: David and Margaret, both of Montgomery, Ill., and Anthony and Mary A., deceased.

Our subject was about six years old when with his parents he removed to Hamilton County, Ohio, where he grew up until he attained to man's estate. He was brought up on the farm and educated in the district schools, but it must be remembered

that those were early days, and Ohio was in the then Far West, consequently his education was limited, and practically what has been done has been the result of his own ambition and effort.

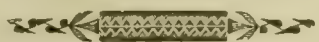
In the year 1837, and while yet a resident of Hamilton County, our subject was united in marriage with Lydia H. Moore, who presented him with eight children. One son only, William Henry, of Montgomery County, Ill., is now living. The other members of the family were named as follows: George W., Harriet E., Abner, Emeline, Albert, Susan M., and one daughter who died in infancy unnamed. William H. was in the 6th Missouri, Company H, and served four years in the late Civil War.

Mr. Berrie was married a second time, the lady of his choice being Mary S. Brown, widow of Hiram Brown, of New York. This event was celebrated at Hillsboro, Ill., on the 11th of May, 1852. Mrs. Berrie is a native of Hamilton County Ohio, and was born on the 12th of September, 1823, to Jacob and Agnes Swallow. Her parents had seven children, of whom two alone survive, viz: Eliza, the wife of William Williamson, of Montgomery County, Ill., and Mrs. Berrie. The deceased members of the family were named as follows: Isaac, Ereminah, Martha, Margaret A. and John. To Mr. and Mrs. Berrie have been born six children, whose names are as appended: Camilah and Joseph, both deceased; Frank C., Laura; Ella, who is the wife of George Grim, of this county, and Samuel G.

From his early manhood Mr. Berrie has taken a deep interest in political affairs. He was one who helped to elect William H. Harrison to the Presidency. During that campaign he helped to build a Buckeye canoe, which was lettered off with buckeyes bearing the inscription, "Tippecanoe and Tyler too." This was put on a wagon, and drawn by six horses from Springdale to Hamilton, Ohio, a distance of six miles, and was the event of the campaign in that district. Shortly after that event he left Ohio for Montgomery County, Ill., where he lived until he came to Johnson County, where he purchased 200 acres of land, and settled to agricultural life.

Mr. and Mrs. Berrie have for many years been active members of the Presbyterian Church, in

which communion our subject was an Elder for four years, and still continues to hold office. In politics it is hardly necessary to say he is a staunch Republican. Through the years of their wedded life Mr. and Mrs. Berrie have made it a life of mutual, affectionate confidence, and have assisted each other in the endeavor to make and sustain a home, and bring up their children amid the brightest possible influences. They are held in the highest possible regard by a large circle of relatives and friends, who recognize in them such character and personal worth as entitle them to a position among the representative citizens of the county.



JHALL HITCHCOCK, a young lawyer of rare talent and brilliant prospects, is Judge of the Police Court of Sterling, and by his wise and able rulings in that capacity, showing a sound knowledge of the law, has already gained for himself a name and place among the leading legal luminaries of Johnson County.

Mr. Hitchcock is a son of the well-known banker of Sterling, Col. N. F. Hitchcock, whose biography appears on another page of this volume. He is a native of the great commonwealth of Ohio, born in Perry County, April 20, 1859. He was reared in the State of his birth, and there laid the foundation of a liberal education, attending the public schools, and later the High School of New Lexington, an excellent institution of learning, then under the management of the celebrated instructor H. F. Acker. Our subject was graduated from that school with honors, and a fine record for scholarship. At the age of seventeen he began his independent career in life, as so many of our eminent public men have done, as a teacher, and for some years was engaged in that profession in the Ohio schools. This, however, was but a means to an end, as he held steadily in view a strong purpose to become a lawyer, and he subsequently entered the law school at Burlington, Iowa, from which he was graduated after pursuing a thorough course of legal studies. He also fortified himself for his encounter with the world by a good, practical business education, obtained at the business college of that

city, from which he secured a diploma. In the spring of 1883 he accepted the Principalship of the Sterling schools, which position he filled very satisfactorily until his resignation in the winter of 1883-84, to become cashier of his father's (the Johnson County) bank. He continued to act in that capacity until July, 1887. He then turned his attention once more to the law, and in November, 1887, was admitted to the bar, and he has since devoted his attention exclusively to his professional work. The very month that witnessed his admission to the legal fraternity of Nebraska saw also his appointment to his present responsible position of Police Judge. His manly dignity, incorruptibility, clear judgment and learning, amply qualify him for this office, whose duties he is discharging with characteristic fidelity, and in a manner to win the encomiums of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Hitchcock was married, March 27, 1884, to Miss Flora Reed, a daughter of A. C. Reed. Her father was one of Sterling's pioneer business men, having established himself here in the general merchandise business at an early day. He died in September, 1885, leaving hosts of friends, as his character and disposition were such that none knew him but to love and admire him. A widow and six children were left to mourn the loss of a kind husband and devoted father. One child, Pearl, has blessed the happy wedded life of our subject and his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are among the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that their religion is a part of their everyday life is shown in many ways, especially by their friendliness to the poor and unfortunate. Mr. Hitchcock sympathizes with the Republicans in his political views.



ELIHU P. PHILLIPS. This gentleman holds a leading position among the citizens of Lincoln Precinct of this county, and is one of the representative farmers and stock-raisers, and his residence and property are situated upon section 13, range 11 east, township 5 north. He is a native of Oswego County, N. Y., and was born there at Richland, on the 20th of June, 1821, to Horace

A. and Susan B. Phillips, who were natives of Vermont. His paternal ancestry were of Scotch-Irish extraction, while upon the mother's side the family is of English descent. The history of the family in this country reaches back to the Revolutionary times, and the grandfather, Elihu Phillips, was a soldier in the War of 1776.

To the parents of our subject there was born a large family of children, of whom but ten survive, viz: Susan, Lois, Amanda, Rebecca, Elihu P., Elam D., Cynthia, Jason L., Jesse F. and James R. Susan is a resident of Oswego County, and was married to Orlando Kent, now deceased; Lois, the widow of Omar Douglas, who is living in Franklin County, this State, as is also Amanda, who was married to John C. Delano, now deceased; Rebecca is the wife of George Gurley, of Pulaski, N. Y.; Elam is a minister, and resides in Oswego County, N. Y.; Cynthia, relict of Caleb Fobes, makes her home in Tecumseh; Jason is milling in the same county, as is also James R.; Jesse is in Oswego County.

The subject of our sketch was reared in his native county and State, and there was instructed in the common schools and grew to manhood. From his boyhood he was conversant with farm life, being reared upon the home farm, and therefore preferred to make agricultural pursuits the occupation of his life. With the exception of thorough instruction, practical and otherwise, in the engagements of farming, he is chiefly self-educated, and has always given careful attention to reading.

On the 20th of March, 1815, Mr. Phillips was united in marriage with Angeline Douglas, a native of New York State, and the daughter of Sanford and Clarrissa (Sanford) Douglas. Of this union there have been born seven children, of whom the following survive: Frank N., who now resides at Riverton, Neb.; Horace A., now of Loup County; Ada, wife of Robert M. Erwin, of this county; George S., of Lincoln Precinct, and John, who is at home. The names of the deceased children were Omar and Onias D.

In the year 1855, accompanied by his family, our subject turned his steps westward, emigrating to Lake County, Ill., where he remained for about three years, and then went to Iowa and farmed in Jackson County until 1862. On the 15th of August

of that year he enlisted in Company K, 26th Iowa Infantry, and the regiment became part of the 1st Division of the 15th Army Corps of the Army of the Tennessee, Gen. Sherman's old corps. He was promoted to the position of Corporal, which he continued afterward to hold. During the time of his army life he fought in sixteen battles, among which were those at Chickasaw Bayou, Arkansas Post, the siege and battle of Vicksburg and Kenesaw Mountain. There he was wounded, and, being generally incapacitated, returned home to Iowa on a furlough. At the expiration of that term he returned to his duties, rejoining the forces at Nashville, Tenn., and his regiment some weeks afterward, continuing in the service until his discharge, in June, 1865.

Leaving Iowa in 1869, Mr. Phillips came to this county and settled at his present home. His farm comprises 120 acres of well-located, fertile land in a splendid state of cultivation. He formerly owned 320 acres, but gave a portion to his children. He is in every regard a self-made man, and is deserving of every possible credit for the efforts and determination that have so favorably resulted.

The subject of this sketch has served in the office of Justice of the Peace continuously for Lincoln Precinct, which fact eloquently voices the sentiment of his fellow-citizens entertained respecting his character and personal worth. Politically, he is a member of the Union Labor party. He has always taken the greatest interest in building up and advancing the educational and other interests of the county and State, and has done what lay in his power to that end. He is a member of Hickathorn Post No. 49, G. A. R., at Tecumseh, and is at all times well received by his comrades. In the community he and his family are much respected and esteemed.

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C W. MOORE, a prominent citizen of Sterling, was at one time the leading physician of this vicinity, but he has now retired from active practice, although he is still often called upon for medical advice by his old friends and patients. He comes of an old and well-known Pennsylvanian family, and is a son of Dr. James Moore, of that



A. P. Marble

State. Our subject was born in Huntingdon County, and there he was reared and chiefly educated. He subsequently entered the Pennsylvania Medical College, where he pursued a thorough course of study, and from which he was graduated in 1852, with a high standing for scholarship. He immediately entered upon the practice of his profession in his native State. From the beginning his success was assured; a young man of exceptional talent, finely educated, and of an irreproachable character, he had no difficulty in winning his way, and making himself popular. The breaking out of the war found him in the enjoyment of an extensive practice, but in 1863 we find him pursuing his calling on Southern battle-fields, he having volunteered in the spring of that year, and been commissioned surgeon of the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He served in that capacity under the gallant Gen. Philip Sheridan, and was with him in all the battles of a year and a half. He was often in the thick of a heavy engagement, affording relief to the wounded and dying soldiers, and at one time was under fire twenty-three days continuously.

The Doctor subsequently resigned his commission as regimental surgeon that he might accept the position as assistant surgeon in the regular army, and was stationed at Annapolis, Md., where he had charge of the exchange of prisoners from November, 1864, to the close of the war. At the close of the war he was honorably discharged, and was warmly welcomed back to the bosom of his family and to his old friends in his Pennsylvania home. He at once resumed his professional duties, and for several years led an exceedingly busy life, for he was the "beloved physician" in many a household where his presence seemed to bring healing. For some years he was surgeon for the Huntingdon & Broad Top Railroad Company in Pennsylvania. He at length decided to make his home in Nebraska for the benefit of its healthful, invigorating climate, and winding up his affairs in his native State, he came here and located in Sterling in June, 1878. He opened an office in this city and practiced a short time, but being a man of quiet, scholarly tastes, and having an ample income for the enjoyment of them, he has withdrawn from the duties of his profession as nearly as possible, and lives in

partial retirement with his wife and children in one of the most charming homes in the city. The Doctor was married in Pennsylvania in January, 1854, to Miss Margaret Stunkard, who has been to him a devoted companion. Their pleasant wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of four sons and two daughters, all of whom are living.

Our subject has the reputation of a man of integrity, wisdom, and unfailing courtesy, which traits have gained for him a warm place in the affections of all who have the honor to know him. He is ever ready to promote the interests of the community in which he lives, and all calls for aid in carrying out benevolent schemes find in him a ready response.

ARMON P. MARBLE, the able editor and publisher of the Elk Creek *Sentinel*, is the son of Milton and Maria B. Marble. His father was born in Ohio, on the 16th of March, 1839, and lived there until about 1863, when he migrated to Wisconsin, making his home there about five years. He then went to Iowa Falls, Iowa, where he engaged in mercantile transactions. From Iowa he removed to Table Rock, in this State, in the year 1869, and was one of the first settlers there. He entered a claim of undeveloped and uncultivated land, and continued farming from that time onward until 1882, when he retired from agriculture and embarked in the real-estate business at Table Rock.

The father of our subject was twice elected Commissioner of the county, and is now serving his second term in that office. In the year 1865 he was united in marriage with Miss Maria Bump, of Iowa Falls, Iowa. There have been given to them six children, of whom three are still living. His wife died in 1871, aged about forty years. She was the daughter of S. C. Bump, of Iowa Falls.

Our subject was born at Table Rock, Neb., on the 5th of November, 1870, and he continued to live there until 1884. There he received his early education and home training, afterward giving his attention to the printing business, with a view of making it his occupation in life. He went to Paw-

nee City, where he entered the *Republican* office and there learned the trade of a printer, remaining for a little over two years, also getting considerable insight into the general work of the office, gaining considerable editorial experience, much more than would be usually expected in one so young and in so short a time. The following two years he was engaged in various places, and in July of the past year (1888) opened the office above mentioned.

Mr. Marble edits a bright, cheery, newsy paper, manifesting considerable knowledge and tact. He has an increasing subscription list, and is well patronized by advertisers, which promises well for his continued and ultimate success. In his political sentiments he is firmly established upon a Republican foundation, and takes the greatest possible interest in everything connected therewith. He is a young man of character, ability and enterprise, and without doubt has yet to be heard from in connection with his chosen path in life. On another page appears a portrait of this live editor and native of Nebraska.



FERNANDES H. ELLIS, proprietor of the leading blacksmith and repair shop at Crab Orchard, is numbered among the younger citizens of this place, and established himself in business here in August, 1884. He is in the enjoyment of a good patronage as the result of a thorough understanding of his trade, turning out excellent work and giving employment to two men. He has been a resident of Nebraska since a boy nine years of age, most of this time being spent in Johnson County, to which his parents came in 1868, settling in Vesta Precinct. Nebraska at this time had not long enjoyed its dignity as a State, and the country around was still wild and new.

Mr. Ellis was born in Whiteside County, Ill., Sept. 7, 1859, and remained with his parents assisting his father in the various employments incident to farm life until a young man twenty-three years of age, then going to Tecumseh, where he began his apprenticeship at the blacksmith trade, at which

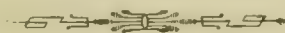
he served two years, and then worked as a journeyman by the day nearly one year. In the meantime he had saved what he could of his earnings, and was then ready to establish himself in business. He is of that cheerful and courteous mien which never fails of making friends, and he is consequently the center of a pleasant circle of acquaintances, where he is ever welcome, and is in the enjoyment of a large measure of esteem and confidence. Our subject is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he uniformly votes the Republican ticket.

Benjamin P. Ellis, the father of our subject, is a farmer by occupation, and resides on section 28, in Vesta Precinct. He was born in Dearborn County, Ind., in May, 1833, and is the son of David and Mary (Barton) Ellis, the former a native of Maine, and the latter born on the Atlantic Ocean while her parents were emigrating from their native Ireland to America. They settled in Dearborn County, Ind., during its pioneer days, where David Ellis carried on farming and also worked as a carpenter and wagon-maker.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Emily S. Roberts, and became the wife of Benjamin P. Ellis Nov. 26, 1856. Her father was Joseph Roberts, who was a carpenter by occupation, a native of Maine, and spent his last years in Nebraska. To Benjamin P. and Emily Ellis there were born four children, three of whom are living, namely: Clara L.; Fernandes H., our subject, and Lizzie. The elder sister married Charles B. Strong, of Cheyenne County, Kan., and they have two daughters—Mabel and Julia; Lizzie is the wife of John McConnell, of Crab Orchard.

The father of our subject acquired his education in one of the primitive log school-houses of Dearborn County, Ind., a structure built after the fashion of that day, with its slab seats pinned to the wall and the roof of clapboards held in place by weight-poles. The huge fireplace occupied nearly one side of the room, and the chimney was built of earth and sticks outside. Mr. Ellis removed from his native county to Whiteside County, Ill., in 1856, where he carried on farming until the winter of 1868. Then coming to this county he homesteaded 160 acres of land, which he still owns

and occupies. He has now a fine farm with graded stock, and all the machinery necessary for the prosecution of agriculture after the most approved methods. As a citizen he is straightforward and upright, and held in high esteem.



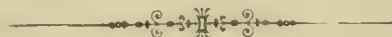
JOHN H. DIBLE, one of the representative pioneers of this county, and who located in Spring Creek Precinct in the fall of 1865, while Nebraska was a Territory, still resides on the land which he homesteaded at that time when not a furrow had been turned, and upon which there had been no attempt whatever at improvement. He began in earnest the task before him of building up a homestead, and has now one of the finest farms in this region, which stands as a monument to his persevering industry. He operated as a single man for a period of six years, resolved to lay the foundation of a home before he invited a wife to share his struggles, and was then married, Feb. 25, 1872, to Miss Bettie Haden. This estimable lady has since been his helpmate, and their union has been blessed by six children, namely: Julia, Wilbur, Kate, Michael, Fanny and Esther. The eldest is fifteen years of age and the youngest two.

Mr. Dible is the offspring of an excellent family, being the son of John and Catherine (Heckman) Dible, both of whom were of German ancestry, and spent the greater part of their lives in Pennsylvania, where their decease took place. They were the parents of six children, five of whom are living, namely: Margaret, wife of William George, of Armstrong County, Pa.; Melinda, Mrs. John Loudin, also of that county; Zephaniah, a resident of Kansas; John H., our subject; and Isabelle, Mrs. Robert Allison, of Marion County, Iowa.

Mr. Dible was born in Armstrong County, Pa., Nov. 5, 1839, and there spent his youth and early manhood, receiving a common-school education and being thoroughly trained in all the employments of farm life. He remained a member of the parental household until a young man twenty-three years old, but in the spring of 1862 started out for himself. Making his way to De-

Kalb County, Ill., he occupied himself there at farming several months, and on the 1st of August of that year, the Civil War being in progress, enlisted as a Union soldier in Company G, 95th Illinois Infantry. His regiment, under the command of Gen. Grant, was present at the siege of Vicksburg, and later, under Gen. Banks, participated in the Red River expedition and was a special guard on board the fleet of transports which operated from the mouth of Red River. Later their division was again assigned to the command of Gen. Banks in Louisiana, where Mr. Dible, with his comrades, fought at Yellow Bayou, being also at the capture at Ft. Derusa. Later he was under the command of Gen. Sturgis, at the time of his defeat at Guntown, Miss. He was also one of the number who followed the rebel General. Price, on his last raid in Missouri. Subsequently the regiment was sent to reinforce Gen. Thomas at Nashville, and Mr. Dible participated in the two days' fight at that point, which resulted in the defeat of Hood's army. At Spanish Fort he was under fire a period of thirteen days, and in all participated in sixteen general engagements, besides numerous skirmishes. He continued in the army until after the surrender of Lee at Appomattox, and received his honorable discharge at St. Louis in August, 1865.

Returning now to his old haunts in Illinois, our subject remained there long enough to visit his friends and acquaintances, and a few months later made his way across the Mississippi to this county, of which he has since been a resident. Politically, he is a Union Labor man, and socially, belongs to the G. A. R., Post No. 104, at Talmage, in Otoe County. He also affiliates with the Masons.



PALMER BLAKE, a well-known resident of Helena Precinct, and a leading land-owner, came to Nebraska during the days of its early settlement, locating in this county when his neighbors were few and far between, and when his estimable wife, who had accompanied him here, did not see the face of a white woman for a period of three months. Indians were plentiful

and wild animals in abundance roamed over the country, which had been little disturbed by the inroads of the white settler. The scenes and incidents witnessed by this honored pioneer have passed before his eyes much like a panorama, and the years which to him seem comparatively brief have been filled with changes, most of them for the better, both in connection with his own personal history, and certainly that of the now important commonwealth of Nebraska.

Of New England birth and ancestry, our subject first opened his eyes to the light in the little town of Brookfield, Vt., June 1, 1835. His parents, Joseph and Rebecca (Williams) Blake, were natives of Manchester, N. H., and the records indicate that the paternal ancestors did good service in the Revolutionary War. To Joseph and Rebecca Blake there were born ten children, of whom the following survive: William, Amos, Seth M., Edward W., Joseph M., and Palmer, our subject. Two children died in infancy. Those living are residents mostly of Connecticut and New York. The father was a farmer by occupation, and spent his last years in Vermont, dying about 1865, and the mother about 1860.

Palmer Blake lived in the Green Mountain State until the eighteenth year of his age, acquiring a good common-school education and becoming thoroughly acquainted with agricultural pursuits as carried on in New England. He was a bright and ambitious boy, and determined to see something of the world before he was old. He accordingly now left the parental roof, and the summer of 1854 found him sojourning in the embryo city of Rock Island, Ill., where for one and one-half years he was employed as clerk in a commission house. In 1856, pushing still further westward, he crossed the Mississippi into Decatur County, Iowa, where he met his fate in the person of Miss Frances A. Smith, to whom he was married Oct. 23, 1856.

Mrs. Blake was born in Seneca County, Ohio, June 29, 1837, and is the daughter of Gaylord G. and Ada (Covey) Smith, who were natives of New York. The father spent his last years in Iowa. The mother is still living. To our subject and his excellent wife there were born twelve children, seven living: Seth E., a resident of Helena Precinct,

this county; Nina B., who is teaching school in the vicinity of her home; Fannie B., the wife of Alvah Whitney, of Spring Creek Precinct; Laura H., the wife of H. Livingston, of Helena Precinct; Birdie J., Joseph and Eva M., at home with their parents.

In the spring of 1857 Mr. Blake and his wife made their way to Nebraska Territory overland from Iowa, with two yoke of oxen and a wagon. After a ten days' journey, during which they camped out at night wherever darkness overtook them, and cooked by the wayside, they landed in Helena Precinct, this county, and located first on section 12. Taking up 160 acres of land they lived and labored there until the spring of 1869, then changed their residence to their present farm. This likewise was obtained by Mr. Blake as a homesteader, and is also 160 acres in extent. It was in its wild and primitive condition, and it has taken years of labor, besides involving an outlay of thousands of dollars, to bring it to its present condition. Mr. and Mrs. Blake endured many trials and privations during the early years of their settlement in this county, but from the very first they exercised the spirit of perseverance and resolution which admits no such word as fail.

After obtaining a foothold upon his first purchase, and gathering around his family the conveniences most essential to their health and comfort, Mr. Blake began to enlarge his possessions, investing a portion of his capital in additional land, and is now the owner of 600 acres. The home farm includes 280 acres, and the balance of his land lies mostly on section 32. He commenced in life at the foot of the ladder, dependent upon his own resources, and is thus essentially a self-made man, the architect of his own fortune. None have rejoiced more in the development and prosperity of Nebraska, and no one man has contributed in a larger degree than Mr. Blake to bring it to its present condition.

Our subject as one of the earliest settlers of Johnson County, and a man of more than ordinary capabilities, was at an early date called to fill its various positions of trust and responsibility. He has served as Justice of the Peace two terms, and Postmaster at Helena for four years, and has been for a number of years a member of the School

Board in his district. He cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and has been uniformly a supporter of Republican principles. He is a prominent member of the Old Settlers' Association of Johnson County. Of sterling worth and integrity, he is accorded that tacit respect earned by the pioneers of Nebraska, and is a man whose word is considered as good as his bond.



ALLEN C. BAKER. The Baker homestead, which is pleasantly located in Lincoln Precinct, on the eastern line of this county, occupies 320 acres of land on section 29, and is noticeable on account of one of the finest residences in the precinct, and which, with its surroundings, shade and fruit trees, and a barn with all the necessary out-buildings, forms the modern idea of the complete country home. Mr. Baker is a very industrious and energetic man, and in addition to general farming is largely interested in stock-raising. Besides the home farm he has a half-interest in a quarter-section of land in company with his brother-in-law, Mr. Frank M. Taylor.

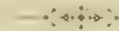
Mr. Baker, originally a New Englander, was born Feb. 8, 1840, in Hawley Township, Franklin Co., Mass., and is the son of Harvey and Ann E. (Carter) Baker, who were also natives of the Bay State, and were of English descent. Their ancestry crossed the Atlantic at an early period in the history of America, settling in New England, some of them in time to take part in the struggle which secured to the Colonists their independence. Allen C. supposes himself to be one of about the seventh generation, and was the seventh son in his father's family, which consisted of nine children, six of whom are still living. The eldest daughter, Margaret, is the wife of C. B. Mayhew; and Angeline, the wife of W. L. Day; both of these are residents of Franklin County, Mass. Martha, Mrs. George Snow, is a resident of Boston; and Eliza, Mrs. John Wells, also lives in Franklin County.

Mr. Baker was reared to man's estate in his native county, where he received a good education, and this, together with the lifelong habit of reading, has made him a man of more than ordinary

intelligence. He keeps himself well posted upon the current events, and is one with whom it is both pleasurable and profitable to converse. He followed farming as an occupation from his youth, and began early in life to make arrangements for the establishment of a home of his own. When these had sufficiently advanced he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret D. Taylor, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Franklin County, Mass., in 1868.

Mrs. Baker was born in the State of Michigan in 1847, and is the daughter of Milnor W. and Margaret T. (Taylor) Taylor, both of whom were natives of Massachusetts, and her father a farmer by occupation. Mr. and Mrs. Baker left New England in the spring of 1879, coming directly to this county, and settling where they now live.

Mr. Baker became quite prominent in the affairs of his native county, where he joined the Republican party and was elected a County Commissioner, discharging the duties of his position in a manner creditable to himself and satisfactory to all concerned. Since coming to the West, however, he has declined the responsibilities of office, although frequently solicited to take part in matters of public concern. He and his excellent wife are both members of the Congregational Church, and occupy a good position, socially, among the intelligent and cultivated people of their community.



JAMES E. CARLYLE, whose well-kept and well-cultivated farm is situated on the north-west quarter of section 20, Maple Grove Precinct, is the son of Jonathan Carlyle, who was born Dec. 22, 1814, in Scotland. He continued to live in his native county until he came to Nebraska, on the 12th of June, 1887. During his early life he was a cotton weaver, but afterward followed gardening until 1884. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Mary Smith, who was also born in Scotland. The date of her nativity was Nov. 19, 1814, and she came to America with her husband in 1887. Their family comprised eight children, of whom four were sons; three only now living. These are: John Smith Carlyle, one

of Chicago's prosperous grocers; Mary, the wife of Samuel Ewebank, of Barrow-in-Furness, Lancashire, England; and James E. of Maple Grove, whose biography is here traced. Mr. and Mrs. Carlyle, Sr., have come to spend the remainder of their lives with our subject in his American home.

Mr. James E. Carlyle was born in Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland, on the 7th of September, 1856. He lived at home for twenty-seven years, and attended school in his native place for about eighteen months. When thirteen years of age he commenced cotton weaving in the steam mills of his native town, and continued to follow the same for about four years. From that he went into business as a nurseryman, following the same for about ten years. At the end of that period he determined to emigrate to the New World, and assure himself of the truth of the advantages offered there for bettering one's position in life. Accordingly he set sail for this country on the 12th of January, 1883, and landed about ten days later in New York City. From there he went direct to Chicago, where he remained until the 4th of June, being engaged during that time in the grocery business with his brother, at No. 328 W. Madison street, in that city.

In June, 1886, our subject came to Johnson County, and settled in Maple Grove Precinct, and took charge of the stock farm of his brother, who owns one quarter-section, and is making a specialty of Hereford cattle for breeding purposes, at the same time supplying quite a large number for shipment to Kansas City. They have a very fine breed of pure Herefords, some of them imported stock. Besides those of pure blood there are many of very high grade and quite valuable animals.

Mr. Carlyle is still unmarried, and is now preparing to engage extensively in stock-raising, even more so than ever before. His brother, of Chicago, who is deeply interested in the business, was born on the 12th of March, 1842, in Annan. After leaving school he learned the grocery business, and followed the trade in Scotland until August, 1872, when he went to Chicago and commenced business for himself, which he has ever since continued. He has also carried on his stock farm with all its varied interests and responsibilities. At Red Cloud, Web-

ster County, he had a half-section, and used it chiefly for the breeding and feeding of Hereford grade cattle for the market, but has sold it.

Mr. J. E. Carlyle is one of the prominent business men of the city of which he is a resident, and having commenced at the very foot of the ladder it is more to his credit that he has, unassisted and alone, made his way to his present position in the world of trade and society generally.

JOHN M. ELLIOTT, whose general mercantile house in Crab Orchard is quite well and favorably known, and largely patronized, is a native of Knox County, Ky. His whole life bears the marks of the State characteristics, and he is possessed of all the wide-awake, enterprising push of the Kentuckian, while the large-hearted and liberal, genial affability of that people is not wanting. The date of his nativity was the 27th of June, 1858. His father, Lewis Elliott, now deceased, was a native of the same State. This gentleman was the son of the Rev. Daniel Elliott, who was a Methodist minister of reputation. He left Virginia, his native State, in early days, and made his home in the Blue Grass State.

John Elliott, the subject of our sketch, left home when in his fourteenth year, and went to Moulton, Appanoose Co., Iowa. He attended school in the latter place for two years, and then went to Marshall County in the same State, where he worked for three years as a farm hand, during which time he still had opportunity to attend school during part of the winter. He came to this county in the spring of 1879, and farmed at Vesta until 1885, when he came to Crab Orchard, and established the present business under the firm name of DeCamp & Elliott. His partner afterward sold his interest to our subject, since which time he has been sole proprietor. He carries a stock of not less than \$3,000, and does an annual business of about \$9,000.

Miss Mary Mace and our subject were united in marriage Sept. 24, 1879. This lady is the daughter of David and Susannah Mace, of North Carolina. She was born in the latter State on the 14th of March, 1850. It was her misfortune to lose

her father by death before the war. She has presented her husband with three children, of whom Eustace J. and Myo D. alone survive. For two years she was an invalid and a great sufferer, but is now completely restored to health, and able once more to take her accustomed place in the family circle, to the pleasure and delight of her family.

Our subject began life at the lowest round of the ladder, having no friend to help or advise him, and to his honor be it said he has in every case made the disadvantages and discouragements but steps to renewed success. He is in sympathy with the Democratic party, and both feels and expresses himself forcibly upon the question of tariff reform.



OWEN P. RICHARDSON, of Western Precinct, may usually be found about his premises, which occupy a portion of section 36. His farm is noticeable for its good crops, its live stock and its comfortable buildings. Mr. R. is an Illinois man, having been born in Knox County, that State, Nov. 17, 1845. His father, Pliny Richardson, a native of Kentucky, died about 1875, aged sixty years.

Our subject received a good education in the district schools of his neighborhood and High School tuition at Knoxville, Ill. He remained under the parental roof until reaching his majority, then started out to see the country west of the Mississippi. Going to Idaho Territory he traveled from there through Montana, Oregon and California, spending the winter of 1869 in San Francisco. He skirmished considerably with the Indians at different times in Idaho. He was there employed in herding cattle, and upon one occasion the Indians stole the ponies of himself and comrades. Mr. Richardson and three others pursued and attacked about forty savages, in the meantime hiding themselves from the missiles of their foes among the rocks of which they built breastworks, and there fought two nights and days. At the expiration of this time the remainder of their company, sixteen in number, came to their relief. They made away with twenty-seven of the redskins. On the other side three of the white men fell to rise no more.

Mr. Richardson and his comrades recovered their twenty ponies in addition to taking twenty from the Indians.

In December, 1869, our subject returned to Illinois, where he carried on farming until February, 1880. He then settled in this county and carried on agriculture in the western part of Western Precinct until the fall of 1884, when he secured the land which he now owns and occupies. In the meantime he was married, July 18, 1870, in Knox County, Ill., to Miss Anna Powell. This lady was born July 15, 1849, in Fayette County, Ind., and is the daughter of George and Kigga (Copse) Powell, the latter of whom is deceased; the father survives and is living in Illinois. Of her union with our subject there were born nine children, six of whom are living, namely: Pliny, Aley M., Leonard, Clyde, Lloyd and Nina. The eldest is eighteen years of age, and the youngest fourteen months. They are living at home. Mrs. Elizabeth (Pierce) Richardson, the mother of our subject, is still living, and makes her home in Knox County, being now in the eighty-first year of her age. She has recently (October, 1888) been on a visit to her son, being sprightly and active and in the enjoyment of good health. The parental family consisted of eight children, seven living.

Mr. Richardson cast his first vote for Abraham Lincoln, and uniformly continues his support of Republican principles. He is numbered among the reliable citizens of his precinct, a man careful in his business transactions, honest and upright, and well thought of by his neighbors.



JAMES STOLTENBERG. The subject of this sketch came to Lincoln Precinct with his family in the spring of 1871, and settled on the farm which he now owns and occupies, purchasing eighty acres of raw prairie, which he has transformed into one of the finest farms in this precinct. Besides this property he has a quarter-section of good land in Nemaha County. He is classed among the representative German citizens of his county who have assisted largely in its growth and development, bringing to it those

qualities of sturdy industry and perseverance which have assisted so materially in the development of its soil and the general prosperity of its people. Mr. S., in addition to general farming, is largely interested in stock-raising, having the typical fat horses and cattle which are always associated with the German agriculturist.

A native of the Duchy of Holstein, our subject was born Oct. 25, 1842, and is the son of Henry and Bertha (Schoel) Stoltenberg, who were of pure German ancestry, and natives of the same Province as their son. The father died when James was a little lad of seven years, but the mother lived until about 1880, she spending her last days in Iowa. She came to America with her daughter about 1866. The parental family included three children, of whom James, our subject, was the eldest. Bertha died in Iowa when about forty-two years old; Lena is the wife of James Kahler, of Benton County, Iowa.

In common with the children of Germany our subject was placed in school at an early age, and received a thorough education in his native tongue. After leaving school he was occupied with farming pursuits until twenty-two years of age, near the place of his birth. He was not satisfied, however, with his prospects for the future, and determined to seek his fortunes on the other side of the Atlantic. Bidding adieu to his friends and associates, he engaged passage on a steamer bound from Hamburg to New York City, landing upon American soil after an ocean voyage of fifteen days. He proceeded at once to Rock Island County, Ill., and for four years thereafter was engaged as a farm laborer in that locality. There also he met his fate in the person of Miss Catherine Hanburg, to whom he was married Oct. 12, 1866. This lady was born in Germany, in Holstein, Dec. 9, 1844, and comes of a good family, being the daughter of Marx and Dorothea (Blank) Hanburg, and a sister of Eggert Hanburg, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Stoltenberg commenced their wedded life together in Rock Island County, Ill., whence they crossed the Mississippi, as we have already stated. Of their union there have been born four children, namely: Ferdinand G., Oct. 23, 1867; Elizabeth, Aug. 24,

1869; John, May 21, 1873, and Emil, Oct. 7, 1877. John died when three and one-half years old.

Our subject and his estimable wife were reared in the doctrines of the German Lutheran Church, to which they still loyally adhere, attending divine services in Washington Precinct, Nemaha County.

Mr. S., politically, advocates the principles of the Democratic party, and in all respects has built up for himself the record of an honest man and a good citizen.



AUGUST BEETHE. There is no more pleasing spectacle than that of a young man starting out early in life, with a well-balanced mind and good habits, and establishing himself as a useful member of his community—one who wins from the first the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. The subject of this sketch is a fine illustration of what a resolute will may accomplish, combined with great natural talents and capabilities. Although but thirty years of age, he is already spoken of as one of the representative men of his township. He is the owner of a fine farm, fully developed and improved, with handsome and substantial buildings, pleasantly located on the southeast portion of section 27, Todd Creek Precinct. In addition to general agriculture he makes a specialty of stock-raising, keeping graded cattle, horses and swine. His cattle are of the Short-horn breed, the head of his herd being a full-blooded animal, and his horses, mostly draft animals, are thoroughbred. His swine are the Poland-China. The residence is a fine large structure, and the barn and other out-buildings fully in keeping with the tastes and requirements of the progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Beethe first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in the fall of 1869, when he was a lad of eleven years. He was born in DuPage County, Ill., Aug. 23, 1858, and lived there with his parents until they all crossed the Mississippi. The journey from the Prairie State was made overland with teams to Tecumseh, the travelers crossing the river at Nebraska City. The father, after looking

over the country, finally selected his location and purchased 280 acres in Todd Creek Precinct, which he brought to a productive condition, and upon which he effected good improvements, and later added to his landed estate, and subsequently divided even more than this among his sons.

Our subject completed his education in the pioneer schools of Todd Creek, becoming familiar with both the German and English tongues. Naturally bright and ambitious to learn, he improved his opportunities and became more than ordinarily well informed. He assisted his father in the development of the new land, and remained a member of the parental household until the spring of 1879. He then took possession of his own land, which at that time was an unbroken prairie, and upon which he has labored with incessant industry it is easy to believe, for it now closely resembles the well-developed farm of several years' standing. He has several acres of forest trees, a fruit orchard in good bearing condition, and in the summer of 1882 completed his residence.

In his stock operations Mr. Beethe has been especially successful. He provides carefully for the shelter and feeding of his animals, and in consequence enjoys from this industry a handsome income. His fields are divided with neat hedge fencing. His domestic affairs are presided over by a very amiable and estimable lady, who became the wife of our subject on the 7th of December, 1884. She was formerly Miss Anna Duden, of Nemaha County, to which her mother emigrated from Germany in 1883, her father having come the previous fall. Mrs. Beethe was born in East Friesland, Germany, Oct. 2, 1867. She was sixteen years of age when her parents settled in the vicinity of Humboldt, Nemaha County, where she completed her education and lived until her marriage.

To Mr. and Mrs. Beethe there have been born three children—Rosa and Hanna (twins) and Bertha. Our subject and his wife are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and attend regularly upon the services held in the building which they assisted largely in erecting, and which is near their home. It is a neat and tasteful structure, and a credit to any neighborhood. Mr. Beethe contributes liberally to those enterprises having in

view the moral and religious welfare of the community. In company with his brother Carl II., a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume, he is at present putting up a building for the Germania School, half a mile south, and as contractors and builders the brothers have gained a reputation fully equal to that which they possess as agriculturists and business men.

The parents of our subject, Carl and Wilhelmine (Bueltemeier) Beethe, were natives of Germany. The mother is deceased, but the father is a resident of this precinct. Their family consisted of twelve children, ten of whom are living.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of Henry Duden, who, with his wife, was also a native of East Friesland, Germany, from which he emigrated in the fall of 1882 to America, and was joined by his family the following year. The latter included the wife, four sons and one daughter. Mr. D. came to this county, and with his estimable wife is still living, having their home near the Lutheran Church in Todd Creek Precinct, occupying forty acres of land owned by our subject. Their sons are residents of Germany and Nebraska.

Mr. Beethe, politically, is a staunch Republican, and has been prominent in local politics. He frequently represents his precinct in the County Conventions, has officiated as a Jurymen, and filled various other offices of trust and responsibility. He and his excellent wife enjoy the friendship of the best people of their community, and their home is a most pleasant resort, whose hospitable doors are ever open, and whose surroundings indicate refined and cultivated tastes and ample means.

ISRAEL GEHR is one of the representative farmers of Western Precinct. His property is situated upon section 8. The family of which he is a member is of German extraction. Joseph Gehr, the grandfather of our subject, was born in that country and came to the United States about 1810. He was able to trace his ancestry back to one of the noble Huguenot families, which fled from France to Switzerland in 1685, during the cruel persecution of that people by the French Catholic

Church and Government. The family of Joseph Gehr was one of the first families in Lancaster County, Pa. He himself served as a Captain throughout the War of the Revolution, and helped to draw up the Constitution of the Keystone State. His son John, the father of our subject, was born on the Pennsylvania homestead, and as a young man served in a militia company, of which he held the Captaincy for twenty years. This gentleman died in Crawford County, Pa., in the year 1852.

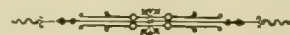
The subject of our sketch was born on the 2d of August, 1814, in Crawford County, Pa. and was reared upon the home farm, so that he has from earliest years been more or less acquainted with agricultural life. His education was such as was to be obtained in the common schools of that time, and though perhaps not so extensive in the range of subjects as now, was thorough in the branches taught and practical.

The marriage of Israel Gehr was celebrated on the 16th of May, 1839. He was then united in wedlock with Ann, the estimable daughter of William Smiley. There have been seven children born to them, four of whom are living. The family record gives the names of the members of this family as follows: James W., Sarah, Ella, Effie; Sanford L. S., who died at the age of twenty-four years; Henrietta L., who was married to J. W. Beatty, and after several years of happy wedded life died, leaving three children, whose names are Harland, Emma and Lily A.; the other daughter, Mary A., died at the age of fifteen years. Sarah Gehr was united in marriage with Alfred Robinson, of Nelson, Nuckolls County, this State; she is the mother of two children, viz: Ethel Pearl and Jay. Ella is the wife of the Rev. Stokeley Roberts, of Beatrice, a Presiding Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church; they are the parents of four children—Walter W., Guy, Herbert and Violet.

The settlement of Mr. Gehr in this county dates from 1870. He first bought land near Sterling, moved upon it and began to improve a farm, where he made his home until the spring of 1882, when he settled upon his present farm. He is the owner of 223 acres of good agricultural land. The farm occupied by him at present lies adjoining the village of Crab Orchard; his improvements indi-

cate the good taste and management of the owner. Our subject has retired from active labor and is living at ease, and is now enjoying some of the fruits of the labor of former years.

The subject of our sketch occupied the seat of Justice of the Peace for one term, and did so in a manner most satisfactory. Both he and his wife are much respected members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in the community at large are held in high regard.



JL. ARCHER, a well-known and highly respected citizen of Sterling, is classed among the wealthy farmers and extensive land-owners of Johnson County. His large farm, comprising 600 acres of land of unsurpassed fertility and productiveness, is finely located, and with its neat, commodious buildings, fine orchard, considered to be one of the best in the county, its grove of forest trees, and many other attractions, is, indeed, a valuable estate, and one of which the family may well be proud.

Mr. Archer is a New Englander by birth, born amid the beautiful hills of Vermont, June 24, 1818. He was reared and educated in his native State, and there married Oct. 27, 1839. He was reared to the life of a farmer, and was actively engaged in that occupation until 1884, since which time he has led a more retired life in his home in the city, although still looking after his extensive agricultural interests. He continued to live in the Green Mountain State until 1848, when he removed with his family to Livingston County, Ill., where he resided for many years, prosperously engaged in agriculture. In 1875 he came to Nebraska with his family, and located on his present farm, having bought 1,400 acres of land here in the year 1867. He has now reduced the area of his farm to 600 acres by generously providing homes for his children, of whom there are five surviving of the thirteen born to him, all of whom are married and settled in life. When he came here his farm was an unbroken prairie, but by hard work he now has it all in cultivation and pasture, and has an excellent orchard of about 500 trees, mostly apple trees

of the best varieties, and he also has a grove of wild plums near the house. He planted twenty acres of timber, but most of the trees have died. He has, however, a beautiful grove of box elders, and it is said that he has planted more trees than any other man in the county, having planted 30,000 in all of various kinds, thus giving practical evidence of his belief in arboriculture. If all of our agriculturists would do as well in proportion it would have an important bearing upon the questions discussed by scientists, who are carefully studying the means of preserving the forests. Mr. Archer's farm is amply provided with suitable buildings; he has a good farmhouse, barn, corn cribs (one of which is capable of holding 4,000 bushels), an ice house, and other buildings too numerous to mention. In 1884 Mr. Archer rented his farm and moved into the city of Sterling, where he bought a fine property and has a commodious and comfortable home.

Mr. Archer is a man whose judgment and business ability are of a high order, and he stands well in this community, where he has made many warm friends as a man and as a citizen. He and his family are among the leading members of the Baptist Church. Politically, Mr. Archer is a straight Republican, and uses his influence to promote the best interests of his party. He takes a genuine interest in the welfare of this city, and is the encourager of all enterprises tending to its moral, intellectual or financial progress. He has also assisted in the administration of its public affairs, having been elected to the City Board in 1886, and serving very efficiently, and to the acceptance of his colleagues during his term of office.

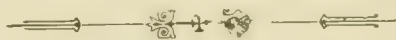


HON. CHARLES C. ELLIS, Postmaster of Sterling, is one of its foremost citizens, and was for some years prominently identified with its business circles. He is a New Englander by birth, breeding and descent, having been born in Monmouth, Kennebec Co., Me., June 4, 1842. His parents, Benjamin S. and Mary A. (Storms) Ellis, were natives of Massachusetts. His father died in Maine, in 1886, at the age of seventy-

seven. His mother is still living in that State, and is now seventy-one years old. Of her family of three children our subject is next to the eldest.

Our subject grew to manhood and was educated in his native State, living there quietly until the second year of the war, when he, then but twenty years of age, shouldered his gun and knapsack and marched forth to assist in the defense of his country on Southern battle-fields, enlisting, in August, 1862, in Company K, 7th Maine Infantry. He served three years or until after the close of the war, and took part in a number of heavy engagements, among which were Antietam, Fredericksburg, the battles of the Wilderness and Spottsylvania. In June, 1864, he was captured near Ream's Station, in North Carolina, by the 1st North Carolina Cavalry, and taken to Libby Prison. After staying there about two months he was transferred to Andersonville, whence he was subsequently sent to Florence, N. C., where he remained a prisoner about six months. He was released in November, 1864, and went home on a furlough for two months. He rejoined his command in January, 1865, and remained in the South amid the active scenes of battle until after the close of the war, being mustered out in June, 1865. He returned to his friends without a wound, but his health impaired by exposure on the field of battle and in rebel prisons. After his return to his old home when he left the army, he went to Central America. He staid awhile in that semi-tropical country, an interested witness of the many strange scenes presented to the eye of a stranger reared in the North, but in 1868 he retraced his steps to Maine. He lived there and in Massachusetts until 1869, when he came as far west as Council Bluffs, Iowa, and in that city, in June, 1870, he was united in marriage to Mrs. Sarah S. (Gray) Tucker. In 1872 he came to Nebraska and located in this county on a farm nine miles from Sterling, having decided to try agriculture on the rich soil in this State. He was thus engaged for some years with capital success, but he finally turned his attention to mercantile pursuits in this city, first opening a grocery store, and subsequently adding a stock of general merchandise. He built up quite a large and profitable trade, and carried on the business until he closed it

to accept his present office. He soon became a conspicuous figure in the councils of the Democratic party, of which he has been a supporter since he attained his majority, and in 1886 he was elected to the State Legislature to represent this county. His course as a legislator marked him as a candid, clear-headed, thoughtful man, who worked for the highest interests of his adopted county and State, regardless of party issues. After serving in the Legislature sixteen months, Mr. Ellis resigned his seat, in order to accept the postmastership of Sterling, May 23, 1887, and he is now filling that position to the universal satisfaction of the public. His geniality, courtesy and ready tact make him very popular, and he has hosts of friends. He is a member of Sill Post No. 99, G. A. R., at Sterling, and, with his wife, occupies an assured position among the representative people of one of the most cultured and enterprising cities of Johnson County.



WILLIAM DROOK. Among the prominent and wealthy citizens of Johnson County must be mentioned the gentleman whose history it is endeavored clearly but succinctly to relate in this sketch, who has retired from active engagements in farming, and is enjoying the harvest of former years. The beautiful residence of our subject stands at the end of Sixth street in the city of Tecumseh, is in keeping with his position in society, and speaks eloquently of the fact that success in life has been his. The position of his residence is such as to command an extensive and excellent view of the city and its surroundings for many miles. The grounds connected with his residence are most admirably laid out and kept, whether we turn from lawn to flower-beds, from these to the bowers and shady groves, or wander through the conservatory, everything is well-kept and admirably arranged, and comprises one of the nicest suburban residences in the district.

Mr. Drook was born near Liberty, in Union County, Ind., Feb. 12, 1830, and continued to make his home in that place until he was about thirty-five years of age. The days of childhood and youth were spent much in the same manner as those of his

companions, and were an alternate round of play and school tasks, interspersed with some of the lighter duties connected with the home. As soon as he was old enough he went to farming, and has followed that occupation all his life. Upon moving from Liberty he went to Grant County and purchased a farm, where he enjoyed much success. Meeting with an advantageous offer he concluded to sell the property, and removed to Todd Creek Precinct, Johnson County, and upon the 16th of March, 1870, purchased 280 acres, which he immediately began to improve.

The chief occupation of our subject has been along the line of general farming, of which his knowledge is thorough, and, being a man who by disposition will never do a thing by halves, he is reaping where perhaps others would have failed. Although not devoting his special attention to stock farming he owns some fine stock, and having a special liking for good horses has been careful to obtain some of the finest specimens possible. He keeps the finest driving-team of "browns" to be seen in quite a large distance. Their weight is about 1,000 pounds, and however often they may be seen will always attract attention and excite remark as being far above the average of even fine driving horses.

The subject of this sketch staid upon this farm until the spring of 1887, then removed to his present home. All that he is or has become is the result of his own efforts, excepting as he received a good education, and was throughout the years of their wedded life aided and sustained by the inspiring and enthusing companionship of the lady who was to every responsibility so nobly true and faithful.

The lady to whom Mr. Drook linked his life was Miss J. Jerusha Snyder. Their nuptials were celebrated on the 11th of December, 1855. Of this union five children have been born, of whom, however, but one survives. His wife and two grown children died here, the others in Grant County, Ind. The child living is his son Parker, who has received from his father a good education, and is now at home with him. Our subject was again married, to Miss Ann Steinberger, of Iowa, their union being celebrated in Johnson, Neb., in July, 1881.

The grandfather of our subject was born on the 7th of June, 1787, in Virginia, and continued to reside in his native State until his marriage with Miss Salvine Farsher. After their marriage the young couple moved to and settled in Indiana, and there continued to make their home. He departed this life in 1870, at the age of eighty-three years, and was survived by his wife until the year 1881. All his life he followed the occupation of farming, and was thoroughly practical in every department of his calling. His religious home was in the German Baptist or Dunkard Church. The home circle of this family included eleven children, all of whom are now living except the youngest.

The subject of our sketch is a worthy representative of this interesting family, and in the community is accorded general esteem. He is not prominent in political circles, never having found much opportunity while engrossed with his farm labors for such engagements. He is, however, a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and has always been, and is numbered among the most substantial, wealthy, and much valued citizens of Tecumseh.

WILLIAM H. TALCOTT, a pioneer farmer of Johnson County, located in Nemaha Precinct as early as 1872, and is now the owner of 112 acres of good land lying on the southeast quarter of section 5. He has been a resident of Nemaha Precinct since 1872, when he settled on the virgin prairie, commenced breaking the sod, building the necessary structures and setting out an orchard and a grove of forest trees. The fields are laid off with wire or hedge fencing, and the soil has been brought to a high state of cultivation. Besides general farming Mr. Talcott has been considerably interested in stock-raising.

In October, 1883, Mr. Talcott sold out and took up his residence in Johnson Village, where he built a hotel, which he operated fifteen months, then sold out and purchased the farm where he now lives, this becoming his property on the 25th of February, 1885. Here, as before, he has been continually making improvements, conspicuous among which is a grove of forest trees covering three acres of

ground, an orchard in good bearing condition and smaller fruits in abundance.

Mr. Talcott has been a very industrious man, and has freely given of his services to those objects having in view the welfare of the people around him. He believes in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and since his residence in Johnson County has officiated as Director a greater portion of the time. He votes with the Republican party, but has no aspiration for political honors. Both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Tecumseh, and warmly interested in Sunday-school work.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in the city of Rock Island, Ill., March 11, 1841, when it was an unimportant town. He received his early education in Winnebago and Henry Counties, to the latter of which his father removed and carried on farming, besides operating a ferry across the Rock River. William H. when large enough had charge of the boat, and later was engaged as a traveling salesman. On the 5th of December, 1866, he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Edwards, at the home of the bride in Johnson County, Iowa. Mr. and Mrs. Talcott commenced the journey of life together in a snug home in Henry County, Ill., and they are now the parents of a charming group of children, five in number, two sons and three daughters, namely: Charles A., Maude, Harry, Grace and Lottie. They are all at home with their parents, and being carefully trained and educated. Maude was graduated from the Tecumseh High School in the class of '87, and is now employed as a teacher. Charles will graduate from the class of '89.

Mrs. Martha (Edwards) Talcott was born in Lewis County, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1845, and is the daughter of William S. and Pamela (Gould) Edwards. Her father was a farmer by occupation, and upon leaving the Empire State emigrated to Illinois. He only lived there one year, however; then, crossing the Mississippi, settled in the vicinity of Oxford, fifteen miles west of Iowa City, where he carried on farming a period of twelve years. Then, retiring from active labor, he disposed of his property, moved into the village of Oxford, and there lived

until his death, which occurred Oct. 8, 1886. The mother had preceded her husband to the better land in August, 1881. Their family included five children, three sons and two daughters, four of whom are living and residents of Iowa.

The mother of Mrs. Talcott was a very excellent lady, beloved by all who knew her, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She had a kind and tender heart for those in affliction, and was very efficient in sickness, being an excellent nurse, and always ready to volunteer her services to those in need. She is most tenderly remembered by her children as the model wife and mother, and one whose example was well worthy of their imitation. Their father during his younger years was not a member of any religious organization, but, through the patient example and goodness of his life companion, finally joined the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was a member at the time of his death.

The father of our subject, Asel Hubbard Talcott, was born in Fairfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y., March 15, 1804, and lived there until after his marriage. The wife and mother in her girlhood was Miss Jane Thayer. From the Empire State they removed to a farm in the vicinity of Chagrin Falls, Ohio, and thence, in 1839, to Rock Island County, Ill. Asel Talcott was one of the earliest pioneers of the western part of Illinois. He made the journey by boat down the Ohio and up the Mississippi. Before removing his family, however, he had visited the State, making the trip on horseback, during which he met a great many Indians. The wife and mother only lived two or three years after the removal of the family to Illinois. Mr. Talcott was then married to Mrs. Minerva Newton, and they became the parents of three children: William H., our subject, and his two sisters, Lucy and Mary. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Minerva Shaw. She was born at Stockholm, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., March 18, 1815, and removed with her parents to Michigan, where she was married to Mr. Newton. Later they removed to Illinois, where the death of Mr. N. took place, and where she was married to Mr. Talcott. Her death took place at the home of her younger daughter, in Spring Hill, Ill., April 7, 1885. Asel

Talcott departed this life Feb. 9, 1876, at his home in Illinois. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, in which the father was one of the chief pillars and a Deacon.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was John Talcott, a native of New York State, where he spent his entire life. He carried on farming and dealt in fine horses. He married a Miss Hubbard, of Connecticut, and they became the parents of five children, all of whom lived to mature years.



JACOB BLAKELEY, of Todd Creek Precinct, settled on the farm where he now lives during the pioneer days of Johnson County, and while laboring to build up his homestead watched with lively interest the growth and prosperity of this section of country. He has been no unimportant factor in developing the agricultural interests of his adopted county, having transformed a portion of its wild prairie land into one of the finest homesteads within its borders. His farm is 320 acres in extent, and occupies the northern half of section 8. The land possesses many natural advantages, being well watered and extremely fertile, and most pleasantly located. Its improvements are first-class, and it has been brought to its present condition only by the most incessant industry, wise management, and a liberal outlay of money.

Mr. Blakeley paid \$5 per acre for his present farm, at a time when much of the land around him could be purchased at \$3. He is in possession of the whole original purchase, with the exception of one acre on the southeast corner, which he donated for a school-house, and another acre on the southwest corner which he also donated for the Grand Prairie Cemetery. He has eighty acres of mostly tame and native pasture, besides groves of forest trees of his own planting. The land was raw prairie at the time of his taking possession, upon which a furrow had never been turned, and there was nothing to indicate that the foot of a white man had ever passed over it. The improvements now include a handsome and commodious residence, which was erected in 1882, and stands in

the midst of shrubbery and ornamental trees. Adjacent is an apple orchard of four acres, to which the proprietor is adding at intervals by the planting of additional trees, and the smaller fruits are enjoyed in their seasons. The farm in short is complete in every department, and fulfills the popular idea of the modern country estate.

The subject of this sketch was born in Burlington County, N. J., Nov. 24, 1832, and when a child two years of age was taken by his parents to Sangamon County, Ill., they settling upon a tract of land near the then embryo town of Springfield. The land, however, lay in Mason County adjoining, and the father secured it at the regular Government price of \$1.25 per acre. His first purchase was a quarter-section, to which he added until he had a farm of 100 acres, and brought the whole to a fine state of cultivation. Upon this farm young Jacob was reared to manhood, obtaining his education in the pioneer schools, and becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. He lived there until making his way across the Mississippi in the fall of 1868.

The early life of our subject passed in a comparatively uneventful manner, and when ready to establish a home of his own he was united in marriage, April 18, 1853, to Miss Cinderella Vallandigham. This lady, a native of Indiana, became the mother of five children, and departed this life at her home in Todd Creek Precinct, May 1, 1884, when about fifty-two years old. Her illness was comparatively brief, she suffering from dropsy of the heart. Her children are all living. Franklin P., the eldest, was born Aug. 2, 1859, and is farming on his own land in Buffalo County, this State; he also conducts a livery business at Armada. He married Miss Ida Lester, of this county, and they have two children—Justus and Ollie. The second son, Sherman L., was born June 16, 1865, and is carrying on a farm of 160 acres in Dawson County, Neb.; he married a Miss Radcliff, of Illinois, and they have two children—Fairy and Eveline. Luther L. Blakeley was born Jan. 8, 1867, and has just homesteaded a quarter-section of land in Hayes County, although not having yet taken possession; Nathan H. was born Nov. 24, 1869; Walter A., Nov. 21, 1871, and both are at home with their father. The mother was a lifelong member of the

Baptist Church, and a lady possessed of many estimable qualities.

Mr. Blakeley, on the 26th of August, 1885, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Margaret J. Swartz, who was born in Clarion County, Pa., Jan. 13, 1840. She lived there with her parents until 1855, then came with them to Nebraska, and completed her education in the Peru Normal School. Later she engaged in teaching, being a pioneer in her profession in this county. Her parents, Fredrick and Margaret (Labaugh) Swartz, were natives respectively of Denmark and Pennsylvania, and spent their last years in Nebraska and Pennsylvania. The father was a farmer by occupation, and the parental household included ten children, eight of whom are living and residents mostly of Nebraska.

James Blakeley, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey, May 19, 1807, and married Miss Hannah Scott, March 22, 1828. They lived in New Jersey until 1834, then removed first to Ohio and later to Illinois, settling in the latter State in that part of Sangamon County which is now Mason County. There the father developed a fine large farm, where he spent the remainder of his days, his death taking place about 1871. The mother, who was born Feb. 18, 1806, survived her husband about ten years. The latter was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he served as Class-Leader many years, and to the support of which he contributed in a liberal manner. He was a quiet and unassuming man, seldom meddling with politics, although keeping himself well posted upon matters of general interest. The parental family included nine children, seven of whom are living, making their homes mostly in Illinois and Nebraska.

Jacob Blakeley has been active in the encouragement of every laudable enterprise in his community, and has contributed of his time, means and influence for the furtherance of its general welfare. He has been for many long years a member of the Free Will-Baptist Church, and assisted in the erection of the church edifice, which stands exactly opposite his home. He was its first Deacon and Trustee, and for a number of years officiated as Sunday-school Superintendent, withdrawing from its

duties and responsibilities about two years ago, and resting two years, when he was again persuaded to assume the harness. Like his father he has little taste for politics, although discharging the duties of the various township and school offices, and being careful to perform his duties at the polls. He has been a member of the School Board nearly every year since coming to this State. He is an active Sunday-school worker, and believes in the careful religious education of the young. In 1888 he was chosen President of the Johnson County Sunday-School Union, an association which is flourishing, and holds its stated meeting.

Mr. Blakeley, in addition to general farming, has of late years given his attention largely to stock-raising, and has for the prosecution of this industry all the conveniences of this later day. His career has been that of an upright, conscientious Christian gentleman, one who has secured the confidence and esteem of his community in more than an ordinary degree. He forms one of the landmarks of Johnson County, one of those men to whom it is indebted for the position it occupies today among the prosperous communities of the Great West.

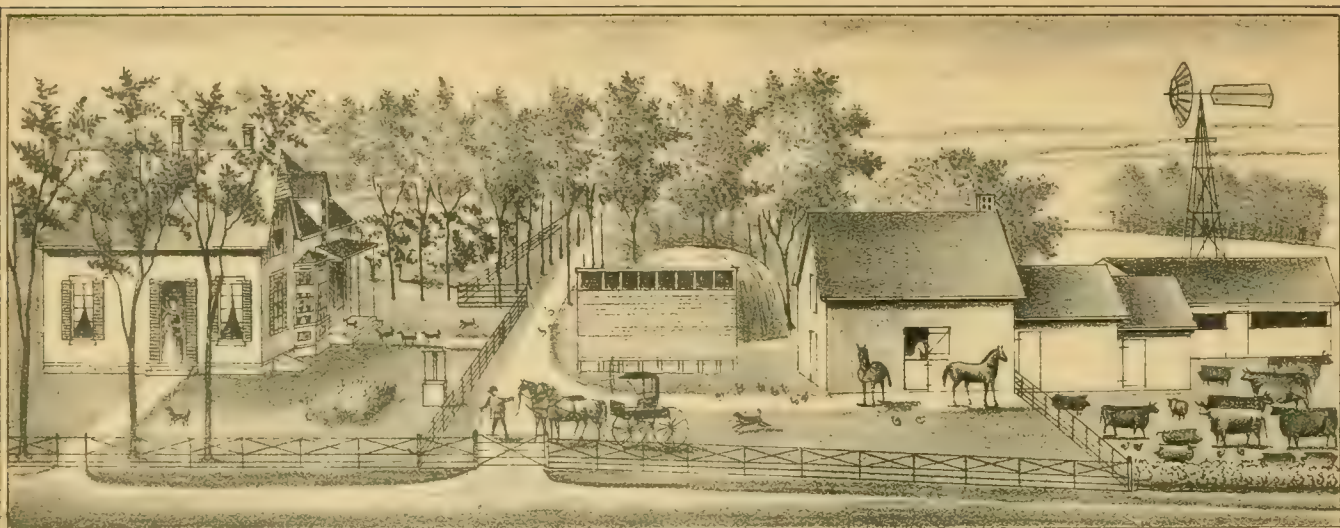
JAMES N. HOWARD. Among the prominent and much valued citizens of the Great West may be found many of the heroic patriots who survived the strife of battle, the scourge of camps and the barbarisms of the war prisons. In the following lines is briefly sketched the biography of one of the veterans of the Civil War. He is one of the prosperous farmers of Western Precinct, his property being situated upon section 4. He was ushered into the world on the 18th of December, 1839, in Henderson County, Ill. His father, Robert Howard, since deceased, was a native of Jackson County, Ohio, but emigrated to Henderson County, Ill., soon after it was opened for settlement, and was numbered among its early pioneers.

The subject of our sketch was reared to manhood upon the farm of his father; educational advantages were small, and opportunities for mental

training were limited and circumscribed. In the spring of 1854 he went to Butler County, Iowa, which was at that time still in a very wild state, and occupied almost solely by Indians, who, although they had received some severe lessons concerning the power of the pale faces, occasionally allowed their wild passions to run riot for the time being, totally disregarding the lessons of the past.

In the late war Mr. Howard was among those who enlisted early in the struggle. He became a member of Company E, 32d Illinois Infantry, which was attached to the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 16th Army Corps, and served for a period of three years. He was present and actively engaged in the battles at Ft. DeRusa, La., and Pleasant Hill, at which battle he was captured and kept in durance vile at Tyler, Tex., for thirteen months, realizing all the perils and horrors of that place, the name of which is burned into the brain of so many Union veterans. At the end of that period he made his escape by the favor of one of the guards, who, although having been forced into the rebel service, was, at heart, true to the old flag. He discreetly turned his back at the opportune moment, which allowed Mr. Howard and some companions the long looked-for opportunity and escape. They leaped the wall close to the friendly sentinel, and secreted themselves under cover of a thick bush. This occurred at about 3 o'clock in the morning. The escape begun so auspiciously ended almost as favorably, and two of the three still live to tell the tale, viz., our subject and T. A. Packard, of Ottawa County, Kan. The other companion, S. Jewett, continued until his death, in 1886, a resident and prosperous citizen of Wright County, Iowa. This gentleman was the only one of the three who met with an accident at the time of the escape, for he was afterward recaptured, tried, and condemned to be shot, but the Captain, who had a very fine thoroughbred horse, which he greatly desired to have taken to Ft. Smith, allowed Mr. Jewett to ride it there and deliver it to his wife. After that his escape was happily accomplished.

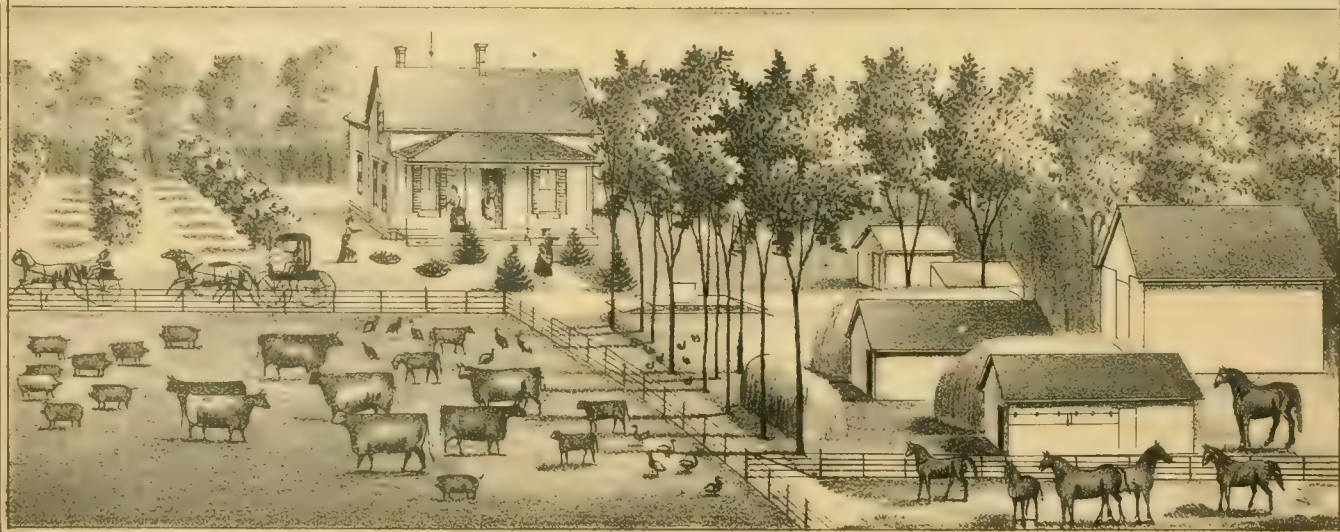
At the close of the war our subject returned home, and on the 4th of July, 1865, became the husband of Sarah, daughter of Elijah Bisbee; in August of the same year they came to this county



RESIDENCE OF O. M. HOLMES, SEC. 2. 3.(4-11.) TODD CREEK PRECINCT.



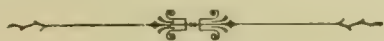
RESIDENCE OF J. F. MACY, SEC. 36. (6. 9.) STERLING PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF JACOB J. ZINSMASTER, SEC. 29. HELENA PRECINCT.

and settled upon their present farm. This property is 150 acres in extent, and is operated as a general grain and stock farm. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard, viz.: Mary D. was born on the 11th of August, 1866; Martha B., on the 1st of March, 1868; Robert N., on the 26th of March, 1870; David E., Feb. 17, 1872; Olive J., on the 12th of August, 1878; James G., on the 26th of June, 1880, and Julia M., on the 3d of July, 1882. Mary is the wife of F. Riley Jones, and is the mother of one daughter, Florence. She makes her home with her father.

In various social circles Mr. Howard is most heartily received. He is a prominent and enthusiastic member of the G. A. R. and also of the I. O. G. T. The religious home of himself and wife is within the pale of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where they are looked upon as being among the very stanch supporters. Mr. Howard is a Republican, and at all times ready to take his part in advocating and advancing the principles and interests of the party. He is a man of undoubted loyalty, fine character and unimpeachable honor, successful in his calling in life, and in every regard a very worthy citizen.



STEPHEN W. EATON, of Spring Creek Precinct, came to this county in the spring of 1883, and for two years thereafter was a resident of Sterling Precinct, in the north-western part of the county. At the expiration of this time he removed to his present farm, on section 33, where he has 160 acres of good land with modern improvements. He is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the word, and prominent in the affairs of his community, serving as School Director, and filling other positions of trust. Politically, he is a solid Republican. He and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and take an active interest in everything tending to the social and moral elevation of the people around them.

A native of Luzerne County, Pa., our subject was born Feb. 1, 1854, and is the son of Hugh and Phebe (Munson) Eaton, the former a native of

County Antrim, Ireland, and the latter of Pennsylvania.

Hugh Eaton, the father of our subject, emigrated to America when a youth of nineteen years, and for a short time employed himself at whatever he could find to do in the city of New York. Upon leaving the metropolis he made his way to Luzerne County, Pa., where he was married, and carried on farming until 1865. Then disposing of his property and gathering together his family and household effects, he proceeded overland to Henry County, Ill., of which he has since been a resident, carrying on farming successfully, and building up a good home for himself and his family. The latter originally included a large number of sons and daughters, of whom the following survive, namely: Mary, the wife of Joseph Rogers, a resident of Henry County, Ill.; Susan, Mrs. J. N. Brown, of Holt County, this State; Stephen W., our subject; James, who occupies the old homestead in Henry County, Ill.; George, also a resident of that county; Matilda, teaching school in Henry County; Maggie, the wife of B. Hadley, cashier of the Farmers' National Bank, of Cambridge, Ill.; Annie, Carrie, William and Oscar, residents of Cambridge, where the parents also live. The latter are now well advanced in years, and are surrounded by hosts of friends besides their large family of children, by whom they are held in the warmest regard for their sterling worth of character. Both are members in good standing of the Christian Church, in which the father has served as a Deacon, and taken an active part for many years. He was also prominent in local affairs while living on his farm in Burns Township, Henry County, serving as School Trustee, Road Commissioner, and in other responsible positions. Politically, he is a stanch Republican, a man of decided views, fearless in the expression of his sentiments, and earnest in the advocacy of what he believes is right.

Our subject removed with his parents from the Keystone State to Illinois, where he was reared to manhood in Henry County, and assisted in the development of the farm. He acquired a common-school education, and when ready to establish a home and domestic ties of his own, was married, Jan. 12, 1876, to Miss Emma Wilson. This lady

was born Sept. 28, 1856, in Henry County, Ill., and is the daughter of Uri and Rebecca (Britton) Wilson, now residents of Cambridge, Ill. Mrs. Eaton has proved in all respects the suitable companion and helpmate of her husband, encouraging him by her counsels and her industry, looking well to the ways of her household, and striving to make their home the pleasantest spot for them in the world. They have no children.



JOHN F. MACY. The fine farm comprising the southwest quarter of section 36, Sterling Precinct, with its carefully cultivated fields, its commodious buildings and other valuable improvements, is owned by the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this biographical sketch. A view of the place may be seen in this ALBUM. Although not among the very earliest settlers of this township, he is classed among its pioneers, as by developing his farm from the wild prairie he has materially aided its growth, and enlarged its agricultural interests.

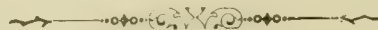
Mr. Macy was born in Woodford County, Ill., in 1850, to Jonathan and Elizabeth (Polk) Macy, natives of North Carolina and Kentucky, respectively. When the father of our subject was nine years old, his parents moved to the State of Indiana, and there he grew to manhood and married, and in 1846 he removed with his family to Illinois, where they lived many years. They finally came to Sterling with their son, of whom we write, and here rounded out useful and lengthy lives, the father dying Feb. 19, 1880, at the age of sixty-nine, and the mother June 10, 1881, at the age of seventy-two years. They were respected members of the Christian Church, and their daily conduct was guided by its precepts; they fully deserved the high esteem in which they were held. They were the parents of six children, of whom our subject is the youngest, and four survive. Their son Isaac E., who lives in Dakota, did good service in the late war as a soldier in Company K, 3d Illinois Cavalry. At the end of two years' hard campaigning in the South, he was discharged on account of

sickness, but he subsequently re-enlisted in the last 100-days call, and served until the end of the war, thus winning an honorable record as a soldier.

John F. Macy was reared in Illinois, and was married in his native State, Jan. 5, 1876, to Miss Hannah J. Newell. In their pleasant home three children complete the household circle, namely: Clyde F., Bruce E. and C. Ray.

In 1875 Mr. Macy wound up his affairs in Illinois, and came to the State of Nebraska to avail himself of the many advantages of fertile soil, salubrious climate, cheap land, and such agricultural facilities afforded by this favored part of the globe, to build up a better and more commodious home than he could otherwise hope to do. When he bought his present farm there were no improvements on it, save that sixty acres had been plowed. The great change that has since been brought about in the uncultivated prairie has been wrought patiently by his own hands, the result being one of the finest, best tilled, and best equipped farms for miles around. The buildings that he has erected are neat and ample, comprising a good dwelling, stable, corn-cribs, granaries, etc. He has a fine bearing orchard of about 150 trees of various choice varieties of fruit, which is already bringing him in money.

Mr. Macy is a man whose strict probity of character and upright life, guided by the highest principles, merit and receive the respect of all who know him. He and his excellent wife occupy a good position in the religious and social circles of this community, both being valued members of the Christian Church. Mr. Macy belongs to the K. of P., Sterling Lodge No. 31. Politically, he is a Republican.



JACOB J. ZINSMASTER. a leading farmer and stock-raiser of Helena Precinct, has a good property on section 29, and has been uniformly prosperous in his operations as an agriculturist. A native of the Kingdom of Bavaria, he was born Feb. 1, 1843, and is the son of John and Barbara (Hoch) Zinsmaster, who were of

pure German ancestry, and spent their last years in Germany.

The subject of this sketch received a good education in his native tongue, and when a lad of seventeen years started for America, taking passage on a sailing-vessel at the port of Bremen, bound for New York City, where he was landed after an ocean voyage of forty-nine days. He at once left the metropolis and made his way to Tuscarawas County, Ohio. For a period of four years he employed himself there at whatever he could find to do among the farmers of that region. Later he rented a tract of land for about six years. In the meantime, with genuine German thrift and prudence, laying something by each year, he became finally the proud possessor of a farm of his own in Tuscarawas County.

Mr. Zinsmaster continued a resident of the Buckeye State until the summer of 1885, then disposing of his landed interests set his face toward the farther West, and settled with his family on his present farm in Helena Precinct. He had been married in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Aug. 25, 1856, to Miss Maria Cutavern, who was born Aug. 25, 1836, and by whom he has become the father of nine children, who are named as follows: John, in St. Joseph County, Mich.; William, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio; Ellen, Mrs. L. Maines, in Helena Precinct, this county; Mary, who died in Ohio in infancy; George lives in Helena Precinct; Clara, the wife of George Geoman, of Helena Precinct; Charles F., Susanna L. and Cora M., at home with their parents.

The farm of our subject comprises 240 acres of good land in a highly cultivated condition, yielding in abundance the rich crops of this section of the country. Mr. Z. has accumulated this property by his own industry and perseverance, beginning in life without other resources than his strong hands and determined disposition. He was reared in the doctrines of the German Lutheran Church, of which he and his estimable wife are members, attending services at Helena. Politically, Mr. Z. is a straight Republican. While a resident of Ohio he was a School Director in his district, and has ever distinguished himself as an encourager of education, and all the enterprises tending to the elevation of society and the good of the community, morally

and financially. The farm would at once attract the attention of the passing traveler for the air of thrift and prosperity which surrounds it, the sleek cattle and horses which are always associated with the thrifty German farmer, and the substantial buildings, yielding comfort alike to both man and beast. A view of the place is shown on another page.



ORLANDO M. HOLMES, a prominent and influential farmer of Todd Creek Precinct, established himself within its limits during the pioneer days, and is now in possession of a beautiful farm of 182 acres, occupying a portion of sections 23, 14, 4 and 11. He homesteaded this on the 26th of February, 1867, two or three weeks after Nebraska had been admitted into the Union as a State. He believed in its future then, and subsequent years have proved that he was wise in his faith.

The neighbors of Mr. Holmes at the time of his first settlement in this county were few and far between, but like himself, they were mostly men of resolution and perseverance. In common with them, he labored in the cultivation of his land, and in the endeavor to make his family comfortable. His first dwelling was a small house built of lumber, and embracing an area of fifteen square feet, the material for which was transported laboriously mostly from Aspinwall, with the exception of a small quantity which Mr. Holmes obtained from a sawmill near his land. He continued breaking the sod and bringing the soil to a state of cultivation, and in due time realized the reward of his labors. There grew up gradually around him the comforts and conveniences of the modern home. In the fall of 1877 the present fine large frame dwelling was completed, and into it the family removed from the humble building in which they first took shelter. This residence is now esteemed one of the best in the precinct. In its vicinity is an apple orchard of 500 trees, and the smaller fruits are enjoyed by the family in their season. Mr. Holmes planted eight acres to forest trees, and his farm is enclosed mostly

with flourishing hedge fences, which add greatly to the beauty of the landscape.

The subject of this sketch was born in the town of Campton, Grafton Co., N. H., on the 6th of March, 1842, and lived there with his parents until a youth of sixteen years. Then they all removed to Laconia, Belknap County, the same State, where our subject completed his education in Guilford Academy. Afterward he taught school and farmed alternately, and in 1866, leaving New England, emigrated to Jo Daviess County, Ill.

Mr. Holmes, on the 2d of April, 1867, was united in marriage with Miss Jennie S. Cram, who was born in Sanbornton, N. H., Aug. 21, 1841, and was educated in Guilford Academy. She was there reared to womanhood, and in 1867 accompanied friends to Wisconsin. Of this union there have been no children. Her father, John Cram, was a New Hampshire farmer of good reputation, and died at the age of fifty-two years. The mother is living in New Hampshire; her maiden name was Louisa Batcheler, and she is a native of Little Boar's Head, N. H., and is a grand-daughter of David Philbrook, one of the first settlers of New Hampshire.

Mr. Holmes was the second man to hold the office of Postmaster in Todd Creek Precinct, being the successor of H. B. Strong. He has always been prominent in local affairs, and has taken a warm interest in the welfare of the community around him, serving as School Director and Supervisor, besides holding various other positions of trust and responsibility. Politically, he votes the straight Republican ticket. He has been a man prompt to meet his obligations, and one who has built up for himself a good record as a conscientious and valuable citizen.

Joseph Holmes, the father of our subject, also a native of Campton, N. H., spent his entire life in his native State, dying at Plymouth, about 1881, when not far from sixty years of age. The wife and mother had died in 1858, when her son Orlando was a youth of sixteen years, leaving a family of eight children, six sons and two daughters. Of these five are living, one in Iowa, one in Massachusetts, one in Nebraska, and two in New Hampshire.

Samuel Holmes, the paternal grandfather of our

subject, was born in Connecticut, and moved to Campton, N. H. early in life. He was a pioneer of that place, and cleared a farm from the heavy timber. The home and surroundings of Mr. Holmes are shown on another page.

FREDERICK BROADY. The subject of this sketch is a man of standing among the prosperous farmers and stock-raisers of Lincoln Precinct, and comes of a nationality which has filled no unimportant position in the development of the Great West, namely, its German element, noted all over the world for its steady and persistent industry, which almost invariably results in the accumulation of property, and a good position socially as well as financially. The subject of this sketch is pleasantly located on section 9, where he has labored to good advantage since May, 1870.

Mr. Broady was born in the city of St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 6, 1843, and is the son of Henry and Katie Broady, who were both natives of the Duchy of Holstein, Germany, whence they emigrated after their marriage, but several years previous to the birth of their son Frederick. He was their only child, and was deprived of his father by death when he was about one year old. The mother was subsequently married to Henry Frels, and they became the parents of seven children, six of whom are living, namely: Henry, a resident of Rock Island County, Ill.; William and George in Henry County, that State; Margaret, the wife of Marx Hauberg, of Rock Island County; Mary, who died when about forty-one years old; and Ettie, the wife of Frederick Small, of Henry County, Ill.

Our subject made his home with his mother and stepfather until after the outbreak of the Civil War, they in the meantime having taken up their residence in Rock Island County, Ill. He then enlisted, Aug. 8, 1862, in Company K, 129th Illinois Infantry, being first assigned to the command of Gen. Buell, later he was with Gen. Rosecrans, and finally under Gen. Sherman. He fought in the battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chickamauga, going also through the Atlanta campaign, and accompanied Sherman on his famous march to the sea.

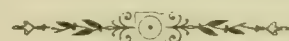
Later he went up through the Carolinas to Washington, being present at the grand review, and received his discharge in Chicago, Ill., in June, 1865. In the meantime he had been promoted to Corporal, and had the satisfaction of feeling that he had done his whole duty as a soldier and a patriot.

After leaving the army Mr. Broady returned to Rock Island County, Ill., but six months later removed to Henry County, where he farmed on a tract of rented land until the spring of 1870. Then resolving to cast his lot with the pioneers of Nebraska, he came to this county and purchased 120 acres of land in Lincoln Precinct at \$5.25 per acre. Upon this he at once settled, and for a series of years labored early and late in the improvement of his property and the building up of a homestead. He has added to his possessions by degrees, having 160 acres of land in Nemaha County, and the whole 280 acres has been brought to a good state of cultivation. The homestead proper is supplied with good buildings, and Mr. Broady has gathered together those little comforts and conveniences which have so much influence in the happiness of a family.

Our subject for the last twenty-two years has had for his companion and helpmate a very estimable lady, who in her girlhood was Miss Christina Hauberg, and to whom he was married in Rock Island County, Ill., Feb. 7, 1867. Mrs. Broady was born July 1, 1847, in Holstein, Germany, and is the daughter of Marx and Dortha (Blank) Hauberg, who were of pure German ancestry, and natives of the same Province as their daughter. They came to America in 1865, and for five years thereafter were residents of Rock Island County, Ill. They now reside in Lincoln Precinct. Mrs. Broady came to Nebraska in 1870 with her husband, and has stood bravely by his side in their subsequent labors and sacrifices, and during their first years of struggle with the elements of a new soil was his most efficient helper and counselor. They are now the parents of seven children, one of whom, a son, Charles, died in 1873, an infant. The survivors are: Henry, who was born Aug. 5, 1867; John, Aug. 13, 1869; William, Oct. 27, 1871; Edward, July 13, 1875; Lewis, Feb. 2, 1878, and Frank, April 8, 1880.

There are few finer farms in Lincoln Precinct

than that comprising the Broady homestead, which is largely devoted to stock-raising. Our subject commenced at the foot of the ladder, and has climbed up step by step until he occupies a position very near the top, and no man is more highly respected among his neighbors. He is genial and courteous alike to friend and stranger, a man with whom it is most pleasurable and profitable to converse, as he is well informed and intelligent, and has kept his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world. Politically, he votes the Democratic ticket, and has served as School Treasurer in his district. Although not a member of any church organization, he gives his influence and support to religious institutions in addition to more substantial aid. Mrs. Broady was reared in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, to which she still loyally adheres, attending regular services and being identified with the society.



ABRAM H. SWART, editor and proprietor of the *Tecumseh Chieftain*, is a man prominent among the business portion and the property holders of the community, having been more than ordinarily successful in the battle of life, and blessed with the happy faculty of surmounting most of its difficulties. He is the offspring of a respectable old New York family, and the son of Abraham Swart, who was a native of Kingston, that State, and born in 1808.

The father of our subject acquired a good education, and upon reaching manhood changed his residence to Wayne County, Pa., where he engaged in mercantile pursuits for many years. He also became proprietor of a glass factory near Honesdale, and was County Clerk of Wayne County for a period of six years, County Treasurer, and the incumbent of the various school offices. He was also prominently connected with the I. O. O. F., and belonged to the Universalist Church. He accumulated a good property and spent his last days at Honesdale, his death taking place in February, 1857. The mother, Mrs. Lucinda (Arnold) Swart, was a native of Wayne County, Pa., and the parental household was completed by the birth of four

children, only three of whom lived to mature years, namely: Mary J., who married Rev. William M. DeLong, of Binghamton, N. Y.; our subject, and Rose C., who is unmarried and makes her home at Oshkosh, Wis. The mother died at Honesdale in 1857. She was born in 1808, at Dyberry, and lived there with her parents until her marriage.

Jonathan Arnold, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Connecticut about 1750, and carried on farming there until the outbreak of the Revolutionary War, when he enlisted in the army, and formed one of the bodyguard of Gen. Washington, holding a Captain's commission. He was in the battle of Bunker Hill, and wintered with the Father of his Country during the famous encampment at Valley Forge. He also participated in the battle of Long Island, and was in other engagements. After the independence of the Colonists had been established, he settled in Wayne County, Pa., where he was married, and became the father of a large family. There he carried on farming extensively, and lived to the ripe old age of ninety years, his death taking place in 1840.

Abraham Swart, the father of our subject, was born in Kingston, N. Y., and the family trace their ancestry back to Holland. It is probable that the first representatives in this country crossed the ocean not long after the "Mayflower" made its memorable voyage, and subsequently their descendants were scattered all over New York State and the farther West. Abraham Swart became a man of wealth and importance, and was interested in many of the leading enterprises of his county. He carried on a large mercantile business at Kingston, and owned several vessels which plied the Hudson River. He married Miss S. A. Elting, the daughter of a prominent family, and they became the parents of three children. Grandfather Swart died in 1818, when about fifty years of age. His widow subsequently removed to Wisconsin, where her death took place at the age of eighty-seven.

The subject of this sketch was born in Factoryville, Pa., Aug. 31, 1838. His education was conducted in the public schools of Wayne County, and he began his business career in connection with a bank in New York City, where he was occupied for a period of thirteen years. Subsequently he

engaged in merchandising at different points in the Empire State, until 1879. In the spring of that year he crossed the Mississippi, and coming to this county soon assumed proprietorship of the *Tecumseh Chieftain*, of which he has since had control. He has greatly enlarged and improved the paper, and provided his office with the modern appliances for general job and newspaper work. He has carefully refrained from becoming an office-seeker, and meddles very little with politics, aside from casting his vote uniformly with the Republican party, and upholding its principles through the medium of his journal. The *Chieftain* has become one of the indispensable institutions of this section of Nebraska.

Miss Catherine E. Holden, of Tecumseh, became the wife of our subject on the 19th of May, 1881, the wedding being celebrated at the home of the bride. Mrs. Swart was born in the city of Boston, Jan. 1, 1856, and is the daughter of Richard and Caroline Holden, the former of whom died in 1866. She then took up her residence with her uncle, John H. Holden, of Tecumseh, where she resided until her marriage. Her mother also died when Mrs. Swart was very young.

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DIEDRICH KUHLMAN, one of the self-made men of Spring Creek Precinct, has been successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising at his present homestead, on which he settled in the pioneer days, securing 160 acres of land, and paying therefor \$5 per acre. Upon it there had been no attempt at improvement, and he was forced to begin at first principles in the cultivation of the soil, putting up fences and buildings, and gradually adding those comforts and conveniences so essential to the happiness of a family. He, however, was blessed with good health, iron muscles and a courageous heart, and labored amid difficulties for a number of seasons, and then began to reap the reward of his labors. He is now numbered among the prosperous agriculturists of this community, and stands well among his neighbors.

A native of the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, our subject was born Sept. 12, 1848, and is the

son of Diedrich, Sr., and Annie C. (Preg) Kuhlman, who were also of German birth and ancestry. The parental family included eight children, six of whom are living, namely: John, a resident of Auburn, this State; Diedrich, our subject; Mary, Mrs. John Frerichs, also of Auburn; Catherine, Mrs. Henry Lahmeyer, of Jackson County, Iowa; and Adeline, the wife of Diedrich Kracke, of Gage County, this State.

When a lad eight years of age our subject emigrated with his parents to America, taking passage on a sailing-vessel at the port of Bremen, and after an ocean voyage of about ten weeks landed in the city of New Orleans. Thence they proceeded directly north up the Mississippi to Iowa, and the parents located in Jackson County, among its pioneer settlers. The father secured a tract of land, and set himself industriously to work to build up a homestead and rear his family. The parents are still living upon the place where they first settled, and now in their declining years are enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. They have made many friends during their long sojourn in the Hawkeye State, and are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church. Diedrich Kuhlman, Sr., was born in 1813, and his wife, Annie, two years later, in 1815. They are in possession of a good property.

The subject of this sketch was reared to manhood in Jackson County, Iowa, and assisted in the development of the new farm. He received a fair education both in German and English, although his advantages were far less than those extended the youth of to-day. He has, however, always been fond of reading, and thus keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest. He remained with his parents in Iowa until the spring of 1873, then came to Nemaha County, this State, and began operating on rented land. With true German thrift he saved a little each year, and at the end of the seventh year had capital sufficient to purchase his present farm.

As soon as Mr. Kuhlman found that he could comfortably support a family, he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Mary Gutzmer, to whom he was married, at her home in Nemaha County, March 19, 1874. Mrs. K. was born Feb.

3, 1846, in Prussia, and is the daughter of John Frederick and Mary (Brunkow) Gutzmer, who were of German thrift and ancestry, and emigrated to America at an early day, coming to Nebraska Territory in the fall of 1856. They are now residing in Nemaha County.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuhlman commenced their wedded life together in Nemaha County, this State, where they lived for a period of six years. Of their union there have been born four children: Adeline, Feb. 3, 1875; John F., Aug. 15, 1876; Diedrich II., Oct. 8, 1879, and Karl W. J., Aug. 25, 1882. Mr. K. has been quite prominent in local affairs, being a member of the School Board for the last five years, and serving two terms as Chairman. A native of an Empire believing in compulsory education, he has always been in favor of extending to the young those advantages which should make of them honest and useful citizens. Both he and his excellent wife were trained in the doctrines of the Lutheran Church, to which they still adhere, attending services in Nemaha County, and giving liberally to the support of the society there. Our subject, politically, votes the straight Democratic ticket.

JOSIAH BRIGHAM. In the career of this substantial and well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Spring Creek Precinct, is presented that of a man who has been the architect of his own fortune, aided by a sensible and intelligent wife, and they are now enjoying the comforts of a pleasant home, comprising a farm of 160 acres, with its necessary buildings, pleasantly located on section 35. In the building up of this estate there have been exercised great industry, economy and good management, and the two who have labored for the mutual prosperity of themselves and their children are noted as among the most highly respected residents in the northeastern part of the county.

A native of Allegany County, N. Y., our subject was born Feb. 2, 1829, and is the son of Asa and Almira (Willard) Brigham, the father a native of Vermont and the mother of New York State.

Josiah was the second born in a family of six, four sons and two daughters, four of whom are surviving and of whom he is now the eldest. His sister Lurinza is the wife of Elbridge Greene, of Boulder, Colo.; Rosetta, Mrs. Washington Prather, of Iowa City, Iowa; Buell lives in Caldwell County, Mo. The parents spent their last years in Iowa, both dying in 1880, the mother January 27, and the father October 3.

The parents of our subject left the Empire State when the latter was a mere boy, locating in Ashtabula County, Ohio, where Josiah lived until a youth of nineteen years. Thence he made his way across the Mississippi into Johnson County, Iowa, settling in the spring of 1849 among its early pioneers. After a sojourn of seven years there he moved to Iowa County, and about two years later was married, Sept. 16, 1858, to Miss Mary W. Remley.

Mrs. Brigham was born in Montgomery County, Ala., Aug. 19, 1836, and is the daughter of John and Annie (Hoggshead) Remley, the former of whom, a native of West Virginia, was born Feb. 7, 1803. He is still living, making his home in Iowa County, and is remarkably hale and active for one of his advanced age. The mother, a native of Virginia, departed this life at her home in Iowa in 1886. The parental household included ten children, six of whom are living, namely: Calvin, a resident of Ottawa, Kan.; Eliza S., the wife of Ira Waldo, of Nebraska; John W., of Arapahoe, Colo.; Mrs. Brigham of our sketch; Elizabeth, the wife of Burton Hakes, of Iowa County, and Samuel H., of Humboldt, Kan.

To Mr. and Mrs. Brigham there have been born eight children, six of whom are living, namely; Willie L.; Mary E., the wife of William Barnes, of Arapahoe County, Colo.; Alice R., Mrs. Walter E. Smith, of the same; Carrie E., wife of James Bushy, of Furnas County, this State; Annie E. and Elsie M., at home with their parents. From Iowa, in the fall of 1880, the Brigham family came to this county, and are now numbered among the most valued residents of Spring Creek Precinct. Mr. and Mrs. B. are members in good standing of the Baptist Church, attending services at Mt. Zion Church in Helena Precinct, where Mr. B. is a Trustee. He has been a member of the Republican

party since its organization, and in Iowa was Township Trustee a period of three years. He also served as a School Director in his district for a long period. Mrs. Brigham is a very capable and intelligent lady, hospitable and kind, and has contributed her full share toward the accumulation of their property, while looking well to the ways of her household and carefully training her children in those principles which have made of them honorable and respected members of society.



MRS. SARAH M. REED and her husband, the late Abner C. Reed, well known as a pioneer business man of Sterling, were among the early settlers of the city, and our subject is still residing here. She presides with a gracious hospitality over a comfortable, well-appointed home, and she and her family occupy a high social position in the community.

Mrs. Reed is a native of Delaware County, Ohio, and a daughter of Solomon D. and Susan (Brinkerhoff) Brownell, natives of New York. They were among the pioneers of Nebraska, coming to this State in Territorial days, in 1857, and they are still honored residents here, locating near Syracuse, where they have ever since made their home.

Our subject passed her girlhood in her native State, attending school, and under the careful instruction of a good mother becoming an adept in housewifery. She came with her parents to Nebraska in the early days of its settlement, and consequently underwent all the experiences of a pioneer life in a sparsely settled, wild country, where few of the luxuries and conveniences of modern times were obtainable. She has thus witnessed almost the entire growth of Southeastern Nebraska, and is indeed a fine representative of the pioneer women of this State who aided and encouraged their fathers, brothers and husbands in developing the wonderful and varied resources of their new home, and evolving from the wild Territory a grand and glorious commonwealth.

July 2, 1864, our subject left the parental roof for a home of her own, having on that day wedded Abner C. Reed, an honored pioneer of Nebraska,

who was a merchant of Wyoming. He was a native of Ohio. Mr. Reed had been married twice previous to his union with our subject. His first wife was Miss Dolly Andrews, who bore him one son, Charles. She died June 28, 1855. The maiden name of his second wife was Caroline McIntosh, to whom he was united April 2, 1856. She died Sept. 14, 1863, leaving three children: Ida L., now Mrs. Thomas Roberts; Rhoda A., now Mrs. Melvin Rice; and Harriet E., now Mrs. Mörman.

In 1872 Mr. and Mrs. Reed came to Sterling to make their future home. This was then but an insignificant hamlet, and Mr. Reed, as a practical, sagacious, shrewd man of business became an important factor in its upbuilding. He immediately opened a store for the sale of general merchandise, and in a few years had established a large trade, which he continued to manage very successfully until his death. That sad event, which occurred Sept. 1, 1885, was a heavy blow to the best interests of the city, as he was a man whose sterling qualities inspired the confidence and esteem of everybody with whom he had dealings. His marriage with our subject had been blessed by the birth of two children: Flora, wife of J. Hall Hitchcock, Judge of the Police Court, of Sterling, a sketch of whose life appears in this work; and Abner C., who lives with his mother, and is engaged in the restaurant business in Sterling. Mr. Reed was a prominent member of the A. F. & A. M., of Sterling, and his liberality and public spiritedness were well known.



LEROY OTIS takes a pardonable pride in the fact that he is a pioneer of Johnson County, and has borne an honorable part in developing its immense agricultural resources. He has a very fine farm in Center Precinct, which is equal to the best in this part of the county in point of cultivation, neat and substantial farm buildings, and all that goes to make a model farm.

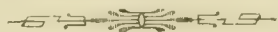
Mr. Otis is a native of the great commonwealth of Ohio, the place of his birth being in Washington County, and the date of that important event in his life Dec. 21, 1829. He there grew to a strong and

vigorous manhood, and when twenty-five years old turned his back on the scenes of his youth, and with the same pioneer spirit, probably, that induced some of his ancestors to settle in the primeval forests of Ohio, he sought the wilds of Iowa, purposing to pursue his chosen calling, that of agriculture, on its virgin soil. He located in Clarke County, that State, where he took up a tract of land, and was soon busily engaged in developing a farm. But our subject did not, however, confine his attention strictly to farming, his thoughts also being intent on matrimony, as is proved by the fact that May 9, 1858, he was united in marriage to Miss Margaret Brown, a young lady whom he had met in that county, and whose housewifely accomplishments well fitted her to be his helpmate in the task of building up a home, and their pleasant wedded life has justified the wisdom of his choice of a life companion. The following is the record of their ten children, eight of whom are living: Minnie C. V., born May 12, 1859; Leroy E. F., born Dec. 17, 1860, and died May 31, 1863; Lillie M., born Nov. 21, 1862; James H., Aug. 20, 1864; Elsie J., Nov. 1, 1866; Dora J., Aug. 17, 1869; Carrol M., July 15, 1871; Sadie B., Aug. 25, 1873; Frederic was born April 15, 1876, and died on the same date.

In the fall of 1867 Mr. Otis disposed of his property in Iowa, including the farm that he had there improved, and again took up the life of a pioneer, seeking "green fields and pastures new" in the then recently admitted State of Nebraska, accompanied hither by his wife and children. He located in Johnson County on his present farm on section 18, Center Precinct, buying the homestead right of a Mr. Brown who had previously filed on it. It was then an open prairie, and only by persistent and energetic labor has it been brought to its present high state of culture, and provided with the necessary farm buildings, among which may be mentioned a commodious frame house, a good stable, and ample granaries and corn cribs. The farm is neatly fenced, and all in tillage, excepting that part which Mr. Otis devotes to pasturage, for he pays much attention to raising stock, which is a profitable source of income to him.

Both our subject and his excellent wife enjoy the respect and esteem of all who know them, as people

of honest integrity and upright conduct in the everyday affairs of life. The cares and burdens of the toilsome years of their pioneer life render the cozy home that they have built up on these Nebraska prairies doubly precious and comfortable to them as a shelter in their declining years. Mr. Otis is public-spirited, and readily seconds any scheme for the improvement of the precinct that he has helped to develop. He takes an intelligent interest in the affairs of his country, especially in regard to politics, wherein his sympathies are strongly with the Republican party, in whose favor he invariably casts his vote.



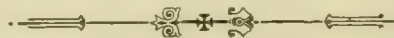
JOSEPH GLASSON. Among the successful farmers of Lincoln Precinct is the gentleman whose life's story is here briefly set forth. He is of English birth and parentage, and was born in Cornwall, England, where his parents still reside, on the 24th of September, 1849. He is the second son of James and Nannie Glasson, and was carefully brought up by them; until he was sixteen years of age he was kept at school and received a good common-school education. After leaving school he gave his attention to farming, and continued thus engaged for some time. He did not leave his native country until he reached man's estate, and was at that time a fairly experienced and quite practical farmer and stock-raiser. This he has continued to make the chosen occupation of his life.

The subject of our sketch came to this country in the summer of 1872, on board the Allen Line steamer "Peruvian," landing after some eleven days' passage on the 1st of August at the city of Quebec, Canada, whence he came direct to this State, engaging in business as a butcher at Tecumseh, continuing thus for about three months, when he started in business for himself. After almost three years and that of comparative success, he engaged in milling and cattle feeding. He helped erect the first steam mill in Tecumseh in 1876, and ran under the name of the Centennial Mill. The firm name was Hill, Graff & Glasson. He continued his connection with the firm until 1878, when he sold his

interest. This fine mill was destroyed by fire in the summer of 1888, until which time it had been in constant operation.

In the month of June, 1877, Mr. Glasson took a vacation of three months in order to return to England and visit the old home. Upon his return he settled upon his present farm, which comprises 560 acres, situated on sections 18 and 19, and which is evidence of his ability and consequent success. He is engaged chiefly in general farming, and has devoted himself somewhat to stock-raising.

The wedding of our subject and Nancy J. Hays, of Nebraska, was observed on the 24th of September, 1878. There have been three children born to them: Emma S., deceased; William J. and Charles. Both Mr. and Mrs. Glasson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, taking the deepest interest in matters connected therewith. He is one of the Stewards of the congregation. Politically, he is a staunch Prohibitionist, taking an active part with those like minded. In the summer of 1888, accompanied by his wife and children, our subject took passage on the steamship "City of New York," for England, landing at Liverpool on the 27th of August, visiting various points of interest and their old home, returning after about ten weeks, arriving at home on the 20th of October, after a most happy and delightful trip. From these things it will be seen that our subject is one of the prosperous citizens of the precinct, and this is due mainly to his own effort and ability. The family is one of the most respected in the precinct, and their home is a representative one.



hON. ALFRED A. CARMAN, ex-member of the Nebraska Legislature, has distinguished himself as one of the most useful and energetic men of Johnson County. He has been prominent in encouraging the establishment of schools, has taken a warm interest in political affairs, and has exerted a sensible influence upon the people around him, while at the same time indicating himself as a public-spirited and liberal citizen, always willing to aid in the enterprises calculated for the best good of the people. He owns and oc-

cupies a good farm of 165 acres in Spring Creek Precinct, on section 30, where he has a well-regulated homestead and is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He at one time was the owner of 347 acres of land, the greater portion of which he has divided among his children.

Tompkins County, N. Y., was the early tramping ground of our subject, and where he was born Feb. 25, 1823. His parents, Israel and Charity (Currey) Carman, were natives of the Empire State, and the father traced his ancestry to England, while the mother is supposed to have been of French descent. The first representative of the Carman family it is believed set foot on American soil in the seventeenth century, and a number of them afterward participated in the struggle for American liberty. After this was over they settled in New England, whence they drifted to New York and other States further westward, and some of them participated, together with the Curreys, in the War of 1812.

To Israel and Charity Carman there were born eight children, all of whom lived to mature years, and of whom the following named survive: Charles F., of Fremont County, Iowa; Edwin H., in Washington Territory; Israel B., in Washington County, Kan., and Alfred A., our subject. The deceased were James, Lockwood and Emmor. In December, 1832, the parents with their children, leaving the Empire State, migrated to Sangamon County, Ill., where the father operated upon the new prairie soil until the March of 1840. He then changed his residence to Mason County, where he was among the earliest pioneers, and where his death took place in September, 1849. The widowed mother continued to reside upon the homestead until 1868, then crossed the Mississippi and took up her abode with her children in this county. Her death occurred at her home in Spring Creek Precinct, Jan. 1, 1874. The elder Carman was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, widely and favorably known as a useful and upright citizen, and successful in his operations as a farmer, leaving to his family a comfortable estate. Politically, in early manhood he was a member of the old Whig party, and remained such all his life.

Our subject emigrated with his parents from his native State to Illinois in 1832, where he received

limited school advantages, but being fond of reading and study availed himself of every opportunity to acquire useful information. He remembers distinctly many of the incidents of pioneer life in the Prairie State, and lived there with his parents until his marriage. The most important event in his career occurred Oct. 5, 1843, the maiden of his choice being Miss Elizabeth Wheelock. This lady was born in Seneca County, N. Y., June 9, 1824, and by her union with our subject became the mother of five children, two only of whom are living and both sons, Israel and Enoch, who are residents of this county. The other children died at a tender age. Mrs. Elizabeth Carman departed this life at her home in Mason County, Ill., April 28, 1853.

Mr. Carman in the fall of 1856 contracted a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Margaret Cooper, a native of Scotland, who bore him one child, and who only survived her marriage little over a year, her death taking place Sept. 9, 1857. Our subject was married a third time in March, 1858, to Miss Euphemia Campbell, who bore him one daughter, and died July 29, 1860. The child is likewise deceased.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Feb. 25, 1862, was in her girlhood Miss Nancy Needham, who was born in England, Oct. 16, 1836. This lady is the daughter of Joseph and Machel (Howarth) Needham, and the sister of Mrs. J. C. Campbell of this precinct, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. When a child of three years her parents emigrated to America and settled in Jacksonville, Ill., where they resided for a period of about twelve years. Thence they removed to the farm in Cass County, that State, where the death of the mother took place in September, 1877. The father is still living at the old homestead in Cass County, and has now attained the advanced age of eighty-five years. He makes his home with his youngest son, and as the result of a well-spent life is surrounded by all needful comforts, including hosts of friends.

To the parents of Mrs. Carman there were born ten children, of whom it is supposed seven are living. The eldest son, William, is a resident of Atchison County, Kan.; of Elizabeth, Mrs. Campbell, mention has already been made; Hannah is the

wife of Thomas McAllister, of Morgan County, Ill.; Nancy, Mrs. C., was the next in order of birth; Mary is the wife of James Hill, of Tecumseh, Neb.; Maria, Mrs. William Davidson, resides in Dickinson County, Kan., and Joseph is in Cass County, Ill. James and Sarah died when about twenty-three and nineteen years old, and of John it is not known whether he is living or not.

To Hon. Alfred A. and Nancy Carman there have been born three children: James and William, who are farming for themselves in this county, and Maria, at home with her parents. Our subject left Illinois in the fall of 1865, his destination being the Territory of Nebraska, and made the journey hither equipped with four span of horses and three wagons, one team being held in reserve against times of need. He brought with him his family, consisting of his wife and three children, his farming utensils and his household goods, and riding into the county with these evidences of thrift and enterprise, it is hardly necessary to say was joyfully welcomed by the people. The journey consumed sixteen days, and they camped wherever night overtook them, cooking by the wayside and sleeping in their wagons. They settled upon the land which they now occupy, and which Mr. Carman secured by a homestead claim on the 14th of August of that year on a previous visit to this section. Their first dwelling was a dug-out house erected by himself for the reception of the family, and the first business of Mr. C. was to prepare for winter and make those dear to him as comfortable as possible. Their neighbors were few and far between, and they will never forget their experience of that first winter in Nebraska, out of which, however, they came with flying colors and prepared to battle with the soil as spring approached.

Our subject, in common with the people around him, labored early and late in the development of the farm and gradually added to his estate until his sons were grown. He now sees them comfortably settled about him, and in looking upon the past and his early struggles has little reason to complain of the manner in which he has been rewarded for his toil. Mr. Carman, politically, is a staunch Republican, and has been a member of the School Board in his district for a period of twenty years. His

course has been uniformly that of a man interested in the welfare of the people about him, and after filling many other positions of trust and responsibility he was chosen by his party in this county to represent them in the Lower House of the Nebraska Legislature, serving from the fall of 1880 until 1882, with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.



GEORGE W. HARMON, a retired farmer, stock dealer and feeder, resides in a fine residence on Third street, Tecumseh. In addition to this he is the owner of other valuable city property, and of a splendid farm of 480 acres near the city, all of which is under fence, and well improved, with good buildings. Our subject is the son of Nathan Harmon, who was a native of Knox County, Tenn., and a gunsmith by trade. He married Miss Rebecca Myers, of Greene County, Tenn., and the couple had seven children, of whom five grew to maturity. Nathan Harmon died about the year 1837, aged about forty-five. His widow survived him many years, dying in 1875, in Missouri, where she was then living with her son George W., our subject. The latter was born in Monroe County, Tenn., on the 4th of April, 1818. He attended school only two days; while yet a boy he began to learn the gunsmith trade under the instruction of his father. In 1827 the family removed to Bond County, Ill., and were among the earliest settlers there. The business grew to be quite extensive, as at that time almost everyone kept one or more guns in constant use. They did quite as much for the Indians as for the settlers. From a history of Holt and Atchison Counties, Mo., published in 1882, we make the following extracts relative to our subject's life in that State:

"On the 19th of October, 1840, Mr. Harmon removed to Missouri, and settled upon the land which now comprises his beautiful farm, upon which he lived for many years, and which he yet owns. He, like his only neighbor of early days in Atchison County, Mr. Millsape, brought his young wife with him to the frontier, and his daughter Rebecca, now Mrs. Benson Bailey, of Brownville, was the sec-

ond child born in Atchison County, the son of Mr. Millsape being the first. Mr. Harmon built a log cabin and also a log workshop, where he worked for the Indians and settlers of the surrounding country for a long period, doing all their gun work and blacksmithing, they in return doing all his plowing and otherwise improving his land. The nearest mill was at Council Bluffs, sixty miles away, the trip to and fro under most favorable circumstances taking eight days. Previous to using the mill they had for two years made their hominy by pounding corn in a mortar. He then purchased a large coffee mill, and attached it to a tree, and from that time it was in constant use. Among the pioneer experiences of Mr. Harmon that came about by simple circumstances, it is related by that gentleman that for seven years he was obliged to wear one pair of pants, and so often were they patched that the original cloth could not be distinguished, and so greased and stiffened had they become that they would stand alone. About that time he got some deerskin of the Indians, and made a suit, and moccasins and a cap of coonskin. By reason of this cap and suit he was known for many miles around.

"Among the first adventures of our subject was the purchasing of beeves for the Quartermaster of the United States Army, stationed at a fort where Nebraska City now stands, and, in a purchase amounting to \$300, he cleared for his services \$200. This is where his life work commenced, and pointed out to him a road to success. Since that time cattle dealing and feeding have been his chosen calling. He has fed from 2,000 to 5,000 head annually, and is among the most practical, progressive and prosperous of any similarly engaged. His farm in Missouri was among the most productive and best arranged for such purposes, while he has also erected a very fine brick residence, the third that was put up in the county. All his improvements are after a generous plan, both as regards design, utility and convenience.

"In 1870, with his two sons-in-law, Messrs. McGee and Bailey, of Brownville, the subject of our sketch bought the ferry-boat 'Mary J. Arnold,' and for nine years continued to run it in connection with the transfer and bus line from Brown-

ville to Phelps City. In 1880 Mr. H. bought out his partners in the business, and for one month everything went on as before; but at that time the boat was snagged, and he lost \$7,000. His former partners again took hold, and fitted up a temporary flatboat, which was used until the present fine structure was finished. Since that time the business has been conducted by the three partners as before.

"In 1881 Mr. Harmon rented his farm and moved to Tecumseh, Neb., not far from which he owned and improved a farm of 480 acres. There he built a large and commodious dwelling, and is having his farm improved on a very extensive scale, intending it for his only son, George Benson. He has also purchased one of the finest lots to be had in Tecumseh, and erected thereon a residence that will compare favorably with any in the city.

"Mr. Harmon has been twice married. First to Sarah Roberts, of Montgomery County, Ill., in August of 1837. This lady died in the year 1847, leaving four children, viz.: Betsey Ann, Martha; Rebecca, now Mrs. Bailey, and Mary Angeline, now Mrs. J. L. McGee. In the month of August, 1848, he was married to Miss Mary Ann Hughes, who has presented him with two children, Sarah and George Benson. The first Fourth of July celebration in Atchison County was held at the foot of the bluffs near Mr. Millsape's, our subject and that gentleman being the chief persons in the community. This occurred in 1841. Corn bread baked in a 'pone' and wild honey formed the menu for this distinguished gathering. Every person in the county, and some from beyond the border, besides a large number of Indians, were present. Mr. Harmon was the orator of the day, and also Chief Marshal, and he has always continued to occupy a prominent place in the community.

"In the Masonic fraternity the subject of our sketch is well known as a true and faithful member of the order. He is a supporter, in political matters, of the Republican party, and for many years has been a friend to the Christian Church, and an ardent member and worker therein. There are not many who have lived in this county who have not at some time or other heard with pleasure from the lips of our subject interesting recitals of memories of other days, which, if it were possible to give

them in this sketch, it would take the form of a ponderous volume in itself. His reputation among all who know him as regards honesty, enterprise, character, and in fact everything that goes to make the true man, is beyond all question."

Since becoming a resident of Tecumseh Mr. Harmon has been a prominent figure in its public life. He has been a member of the City Council, elected by the Prohibition element, and in other ways has identified himself with the community in which he has made his permanent home. In his domestic relations he is happy. His present wife, who was Miss Mary Ann Hughes, was born in Adams County, Ohio, July 1, 1829, and lived there until she was twenty years old, when she went with her parents to Missouri, where she became acquainted with and married our subject. Her father, John Hughes, was a farmer, and in Ohio was married to Sarah Beard, and they became parents of ten children, who lived to years of maturity. The father entered the Union Army on the outbreak of the Rebellion, and died in 1861, leaving his widow and eight small children. She proved equal to the task, and reared and kept her family together until they secured homes of their own.

Of Mr. Harmon's children his son, George Benson, was married, in 1886, to Miss Minnie Schloesser, of Tecumseh, has one child, Benjamin P., and is now living on his father's farm near the city. Mary A. is the wife of James McGee, and they have three children—Minnie C., James L. and Dwight H. Sarah is wedded to William L. Thompson, lives in Tecumseh, and has one child, E. Murray.

Mr. Harmon, since taking up his residence in Johnson County, has become well known to its citizens as a public-spirited, upright and trustworthy man, who is a valued acquisition to its society.



ALEXANDER MARRS. Among the early tillers of the soil of Spring Creek Precinct came the subject of this sketch, locating in the fall of 1865 on 160 acres of land, which he secured by a homestead claim, and of which he is still the owner, although he has

added largely to its area, being now the possessor of 430 broad acres. Nebraska was still a Territory, and the land upon which Mr. Marrs settled was in its primitive condition, not a furrow having been turned, and there being upon it neither fences nor buildings. He realized in a measure the task before him, but set about it with his characteristic energy, laboring early and late for a series of years, and finally beginning to realize the reward of his toil. He is now a man of wealth and standing in a community of intelligent people, and among whom he was one of the first settlers of this region.

Mr. Marrs was born west of the Mississippi, in Newton County, Mo., April 17, 1840, and is the son of Hugh and Maria (Rice) Marrs, who were natives of Tennessee. The family is supposed to be of German ancestry. The parental household of our subject included six children, all of whom grew to mature years, and three of whom are still living, namely: Eneeline, the wife of R. E. Ford, of Newton County, Mo.; Alexander, of this sketch, and Larkin H., who continues also a resident of Missouri. The father died when Alexander was a boy about three years of age, but the mother, surviving her husband a period of over forty years, lived until Dec. 6, 1885, remaining a widow, and continuing to reside on the old homestead.

Mr. Marrs was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving a limited education, but becoming thoroughly familiar with the various employments of the farm, which training was valuable to him in his struggle upon the soil of Nebraska. As soon as old enough he became the assistant of his mother in the management of the farm and the care of the family, and remained under the home roof until his marriage. This important event in his life took place Feb. 10, 1860, the maiden of his choice being Miss Susan Rice, a native of Tennessee, and the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Carns) Rice, who are now residents of Newton County, Mo.

Mr. and Mrs. Marrs began their wedded life in Missouri, where they lived until the fall of 1864, and then, owing to the strong Union sentiments of Mr. Marrs which he openly expressed in a community made up largely of the rebel element, he was virtually obliged to leave his native State.

Having a family on his hands he considered that they demanded his first duty, although he enlisted in the fall of 1861 in the Union service, and went into camp with his regiment at Springfield, Mo. The Colonel, however, released him, with several others, and he was enabled to return to his home and his family without seeing any active service.

Mr. Marris upon leaving Missouri took up his abode in Davis County, Iowa, whence he removed a year later to this county. He came here without means, with two families to look after, his own and that of his wife, and thus had even more difficulties to contend with than the ordinary pioneer. He has, however, surmounted them all, and it would seem has been amply repaid for the toils and struggles of his earlier manhood. He is a man of standing in his community, liberal and public-spirited, giving his encouragement to the establishment and maintenance of schools, and upholding all other enterprises calculated for the elevation of the people. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, and no man rejoiced more heartily at the success of the Union arms during the trying times of over twenty years ago. Mr. M. identified himself with the Masonic fraternity in about 1872, and he belongs to the lodge at Talmage, in Otoe County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Marris there were born two children only; William, Dec. 14, 1870, and Margaret, June 17, 1874. Both are living at home.



LEANDER P. MAVITY. Among the worthy and esteemed citizens of Lincoln Precinct, favorably known throughout the district as a man and farmer, is the subject of our sketch, who resides on section 1, township 5 north, range 11 east, where his property, well situated and admirably cultivated, comprising eighty acres, is located. He is a native of Clay County, Ind., was born on the 22d of January, 1836, and is the son of John and Martha Mavity. His parents were born and brought up in the States of Tennessee and Kentucky respectively. After their marriage they settled in Clay County, Ind. They were the parents of nine children, of whom the following are now living: Leonard L., of Spring Creek

Precinct; Joseph A., of the same precinct; Caroline, wife of David Miller, of Bureau County, Ill.; Martha, now Mrs. George Show, of Chicago, Ill. The deceased are: Wesley, Marcus, Maria, and it is supposed, also James, he having gone West after the close of the war with a Government train, and not been heard from but once and that about two years after he left.

The parents of our subject were early pioneers of Bureau County, Ill. There the mother died in the year 1850, aged about forty-five. His father is still upon his farm. Our subject was born after the home in that county was established. His education was obtained in its district school and provided him with sufficient foundation for subsequent efforts. From his youth he was accustomed to pioneer farm life and was admirably fitted to continue the row of pioneers in other new territory—such as that to which they afterward removed.

In answer to the call for soldiers to defend the stars and stripes, our subject enlisted in Company B, 57th Illinois Infantry, in the month of September, 1861. This became part of the army under the gallant Sherman. They were present and did good service at the siege of Ft. Donelson, the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Resaca, Altoona Pass, siege of Savannah, Bentonville and numerous others. While in the ranks he evidenced the fact that there was that in him that made him a good soldier, brave, fearless, indomitable and yet conscientious. He received an honorable discharge on the 7th of July, 1865, at Louisville, Ky., after which he returned home.

Illinois continued to be the residence of the subject of our sketch until the year 1870, when he removed to Dallas County, Iowa, and there continued farming until he came to Johnson County, Neb., in December of 1881, settling upon his present farm. The property is chiefly utilized for the purpose of general farming although he raises some stock, chiefly cattle, horses and swine.

On the 10th of April, 1866, the hands of our subject and Lucy A. Fox were joined in marriage. This estimable lady is a native of Brown County, Ohio, and the daughter of Hezekiah and Roxalany Fox. Both parents are now deceased. Her parents removed to Bureau County, Ill., when she was sixteen years of age, and it remained their home

until their death. Mr. and Mrs. Mavity are the parents of two children: William E., born Dec. 10, 1867, and an infant deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Mavity are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and there and in the community at large are justly held in high regard. Politically, our subject is Democratic and votes the straight ticket, excepting in local matters. There he always supports the candidate whom his judgment leads him to believe will most truly serve the people. The character, honor and integrity of Mr. Mavity are beyond question.



WILEY SANDUSKY, one of the capable farmers of Center Precinct, this county, was born on the 20th of May, 1830, in the State of Kentucky. In November of the same year his parents, Jacob and Melinda (Hayes) Sandusky, removed to Morgan County, Ill., where his father took land and continued working the same for about eighteen years, when once more they made a change, removing to Greene County, where they made their home until the 18th of June, 1868, when they came to this county, and located about three miles northwest of Tecumseh. Here the father died on the 21st of October, 1884, at the advanced age of eighty years; the mother died on the 15th of January, 1887, aged eighty-one years.

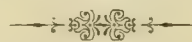
The subject of this sketch was the eldest child of seven born to the above, all of them living and married, three members of the family being in this county. The father entered 160 acres when he first located, and subsequently was enabled to purchase an equal number adjoining. This he improved and brought to a high state of cultivation. The home farm is still in the hands of our subject, his brother Alexander and Nancy McNeil, who had arranged it so that it could be a home for the mother after the death of the father.

The farm of our subject is situated upon section 15, and comprises 160 acres. This he has entered and owned from the year 1865. A great deal of time and intelligent effort have been expended as only a thoroughly practical farmer knows how, and he has made a fine place of it. His house and farm

buildings are good and well-kept. As for the farm proper, it is carefully cultivated, and is very fertile and productive. The house that stood on the same site prior to the erection of the present building eight years ago, was a good, comfortable farmhouse, but was destroyed by fire.

The marriage of our subject was arranged for, and was celebrated on the 6th of November, 1851, the lady of his selection being Miss Sarah A. Shaw, of Greene County, Ill., but she was not spared to him long. After a short illness she departed this life on the 15th of March, 1856, leaving one child, Thomas A. On the 14th of April, 1859, our subject again stood before the altar, and was then united with Mary M. Nettles. They became the parents of thirteen children, ten of whom are living. Their names are as follows: Sarah, George, William, Alexander, Wiley, Calvin and Charles (twins), Margaret, Lidia and Ethel. The deceased members of the family are Jacob, Nancy and Benjamin.

Mr. and Mrs. Sandusky were members in good standing of the Missionary Baptist Church in Illinois, but have not united themselves with any church organization in this place, seeing there is no congregation of that body here. Our subject is a member of the Masonic fraternity, and hails from Manchester Lodge, in Manchester, Ill. He has been called upon to fill some offices, but has only filled that of Assessor of the township, which he held for two terms. His political proclivities were with the Democratic party until about five years ago, since which time he has identified himself with the Union Labor party, and votes its ticket. He is a man who is respected in the community, and whose word is esteemed as that of an honorable and true man and citizen.



FRANK ROTHELL, the Assistant Cashier of the bank at Crab Orchard, although one of the young men of the town has won for himself a place in the community that is most complimentary. This gentleman was born in Mahaska County, Iowa, near Oskaloosa, on the 8th of September, 1864. He is the son of Charles G. Rothell, of Maple Grove Precinct, this county, who bought a farm in this county in the spring of 1879.



F. J. Edwards

The subject of our sketch received a good English education in the common schools, which was afterward supplemented by a course of instruction at Peru, Neb., in the State Normal School. He came to Crab Orchard in the fall of 1885, and has been connected with the bank ever since that time. Upon leaving school he learned the trade of a miller, and continued to follow the same for about five years, but conceiving a desire for some more professional occupation made the change as above related.

The musical tastes and talents of our subject are beyond question, and have led to the organization of the "Crab Orchard Cornet Band," which was effected on the 18th of May, 1857, since which time Mr. Rothell has been both its leader and manager. The band possesses the finest set of instruments in the State. They were supplied by the noted C. G. Con, of Elkhart, Ind., and cost about \$700. The repertoire of the band is very complete, and their rendition of the pieces is such as is supplied by enthusiastic musicians, who have been trained by a careful and thoroughly competent master in the art. The band has quite a reputation for first-class music, and is in great demand at the various gatherings where such a band is a desideratum.

Mr. Rothell is a member of Lodge No. 73, of the K. of P., at Tecumseh, and is a member of the Uniformed Rank. He is very popular among the members of the order, and takes a prominent part in the social gatherings thereof. He is a young man of splendid parts, fine character and excellent disposition. It is not too much to say that the future extends to him a prospect unusually bright, and that he is capable of much good, not only in his own interest, but also that of his fellow-citizens.



THOMAS J. EDWARDS, a prominent and prosperous farmer of Sterling Precinct, is a man whose practical ability, prompt and methodical business habits, and unswerving integrity, justify the confidence and esteem with which he has inspired his fellow-citizens. He is a Southerner by birth and education, Kentucky being his

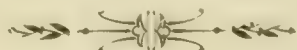
native State, and Alabama the State in which he was reared. He was born Aug. 11, 1826, in Montgomery County, Ky., to Robert and Susan (Wilmington) Edwards. His mother died when he was young, and when he was about eight years old, a few months after the death of his mother, his uncle, Isaiah Thatcher, took him to his home in Alabama, and under his care our subject grew to a vigorous and manly manhood. He subsequently went to Randolph County, Mo., and from there went to the Rocky Mountains. Afterward he retraced his steps across the plains of the "Great American Desert," as this part of the country was then called, and once more located in Missouri, choosing Platte County as the site of his home, but he afterward moved to DeKalb County, in the same State, and there the breaking out of the Civil War found him in prosperous circumstances. A Southerner in birth and sentiments, and a slaveholder, he did not hesitate on the course to pursue, but soon cast in his lot with his friends and where his interests lay, and in May, 1861, was enrolled in the Confederate Army as a member of Company I, 1st Missouri State Guards, under Gen. William Y. Slack, in J. T. Hughes' regiment. He remained with that regiment six months, and was then transferred to Pritchard's detached corps, in which he did efficient and faithful service for three years and fourteen days, his bravery and fortitude standing the test of many a hotly waged battle.

After the war Mr. Edwards began life anew in Hannibal, Mo., where with characteristic energy he at once set about retrieving his fallen fortunes. In 1870 he concluded to try agriculture on the fertile, productive soil of Nebraska, and selecting Otoe County as a suitable place for location, he was soon established there. In 1876 he sold out there and came to Johnson County, and purchased the place where he now lives. This is a very pleasant situation on section 3, township 6, range 9, and in point of cultivation, neat and well-arranged buildings, fences, and many other improvements, compares favorably with other farms in the neighborhood.

To the amiable wife, who has so cheerfully helped him in the upbuilding of this comfortable home, Mr. Edwards was united in marriage in

1817. Her maiden name was Eliza Jones, and her place of birth was Zanesville, Ohio. She is the daughter of Bartlett and Susanah (Holmes) Jones. The family consisted of fifteen children, seven boys and eight girls, nine of whom lived to maturity. The following children have been born to our subject and his wife: Aurelia J. is the widow of John J. Jones, and she has one daughter, named Eliza; Susan E.; John H.; Eliza S., who is the wife of George Strong, of this county; James R., who was killed March 27, 1882, by a well caving in on him; Elijah W., who died in 1881; Luella, who died in 1880; Josephine, Benjamin F., George B., and Sanford M. The two latter died when quite young.

Mr. Edwards is a man of frank and genial manners, is cool of head, strong of will, and steady of purpose, possessing decided opinions on all subjects that come under his notice. As an instance of this we may cite the fact that he is a firm advocate of temperance, and when he became convinced that prohibition was the best remedy for the existing evils of intemperance he allied himself with the Prohibition party, and is a firm supporter of its principles, although, prior to 1884, he had always been identified with the Democrats. In manly vindication of his course he says, "I would rather be beaten in a good cause than succeed in a bad one."



MARCUS CHAMBERLIN is one of the prosperous, progressive pioneers of Johnson County, and as such he has done what lay in his power to help on to its present condition the county at large as well as that particular portion where he happens to reside. He is the son of Manser and Lucy (Braughton) Chamberlin, and was born on the 31st of January, 1823, in Ridgebury Township, Bradford Co., Pa.

The parents of our subject were born in Vermont. His paternal ancestors were English, and came to this country in the days of the Colonists, settling in New England. Two great-uncles of our subject were soldiers in the Revolutionary War, and fell during the struggle. They participated in the battle of Bunker Hill and many memorable struggles

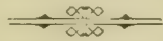
for liberty. To the parents of our subject were born six children, of whom the following are known to survive: Marcus; Lucius, of Elk Point, Dak.; Orville, in Bradford County, Pa.; Ormond, in DeKalb County, Ill.; besides which there were two, Nancy and Julia, who are deceased, and a son, Rinaldo, of whom it is not known for certain whether he yet lives or not. The grandmother of our subject was a sister of Gen. Warren of Revolutionary War fame.

The subject of our sketch was reared to manhood in his native county, and in the schools of the same obtained a good education, notwithstanding the fact that early in life he engaged in sawmilling and farming. He was married in Pennsylvania on the 15th of August, 1846, the lady of his choice being Sally Parker, the estimable daughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Cummins) Parker. She was born in Bradford County, Pa., on the 18th of November, 1829. Her father is now deceased, and the mother resides in Tioga County, Pa., and is over eighty years of age. The Parker family is one of the old New England families of ante-bellum days, and has been identified with American citizenship from the first.

To Mr. and Mrs. Chamberlin there have been born nine children, whom we mention as follows: Lucius M., now in Tecumseh; Lucy, the wife of M. C. Coval, of Webster County, Neb.; Gehila; Mark, who is in Idaho, as is also Edwin C.; Harriet M. is the wife of William S. Morton, of Gage County, Neb.; Harvey G. and Henry T., deceased, and Savannah M. The parents of Mrs. Chamberlin were natives of Pennsylvania; the father was born Aug. 24, 1791, the mother Dec. 29, 1799. They became the parents of four children, of whom Hulda and Paulina are deceased. The surviving children are Mrs. Chamberlin and her brother Joseph, who is living in Tioga County, Pa.

In the year 1853, our subject removed with his family to DeKalb County, Ill., and there resided until 1866, when they migrated to this State, and for about a year lived in Nemaha County, but settled in 1867 on his present farm of 133 acres on section 6, township 6 north, range 12 east. He has brought it from the wilderness of its primitive condition to its present state, which reflects the great-

est credit upon his thorough practical knowledge of agriculture, his industry and good management. Throughout all he has had the generous, unselfish aid of his devoted wife, who has from the first been all that a true helpmate could be. They are widely and favorably known as true, capable and worthy members of the community. They are members in good standing of the Christian Church, and take much interest in matters pertaining thereto. Politically, our subject is a Republican. For many years he has served his school district as Treasurer, and indeed was active in the organization of the district.



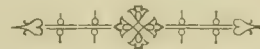
WILHELM NIEMANN, a representative German farmer of Spring Creek Precinct, purchased in the spring of 1874, 160 acres of land on section 6, where he has since labored industriously and with most excellent results. Upon it there had been little attempt at improvement, but it is now numbered among the valuable estates in the northeastern part of this county, which have been built up by the hand of industry and perseverance by the men to whom Johnson County is indebted for her present position among the communities of the Great West.

The first home of our subject was on the other side of the Atlantic, in the Prussian Province of Westphalen, where his birth took place May 7, 1841. His parents were Herman and Lotta (Obermeyer) Niemann, whose household consisted of five children, namely: Wilhelm, Henry, Katie, Herman and Minnie. Of these all are living, and residents of Germany and the United States. The parents are deceased.

Our subject spent his youth and early manhood in his native Province, and in common with the youth of the German Empire, was placed in school at an early age and received a fair education in his native tongue. As soon as old enough he employed himself at farming, and lived in Germany until a man of thirty years. Then, not being satisfied with his condition or his prospects, he resolved to seek his fortunes in the New World. Taking passage on an ocean steamer at the port of Bremen, in 1872, he landed thirteen days later in New

York City, and making his way directly Westward crossed the Father of Waters into this State, and for about eighteen months was employed on a farm in McWilliams Precinct, Otoe County. At the expiration of this time he secured the land which he now owns and occupies. Later he was married, March 17, 1875, to Miss Louisa Pahde, who was born in Gasconade County, Mo., April 21, 1850. Her parents were natives of Germany. The mother is deceased; the father is now a resident of Otoe County.

To Mr. and Mrs. Niemann there have been born seven children, as follows: Mary H., the eldest, is deceased; William, born Dec. 17, 1876; Frederick, March 15, 1878; Harmon, March 16, 1880; Emma, Aug. 15, 1882; Minnie, July 15, 1884, and August, Oct. 31, 1886. Our subject and his estimable wife are both members in good standing of the German Evangelical Church, and Mr. Niemann, politically, votes with the Republican party. He has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as School Director four years, and otherwise contributing as he has had opportunity to the moral and educational welfare of the people around him. The Niemann homestead with its appurtenances is a noticeable feature in the landscape of Spring Creek Precinct, having about it the air of peace and plenty which is most pleasing to contemplate.



JOHN W. BRIDGES, of the firm of Pearson & Bridges, hardware dealers, is one of the leading business men of Sterling. He was born in Massachusetts in October, 1854, to Thomas and Anna (Richardson) Bridges, natives respectively of England and Vermont. By the death of his father when he was a little child, and of his mother a few years later, in 1869, he and his sister Ella were left orphans. He was thus early thrown on his own resources, and developed a manliness and self-reliance much beyond his years. In the spring of 1870, a lad of sixteen years, he came to Nebraska to try life in the West. He staid a year and a half in Beatrice, and from there went to Tecumseh, where he passed the next four years. In

1875 he came to Sterling. He owns a farm and has it well improved, and supplied with suitable buildings and everything necessary for carrying on agriculture. He lived on it until January, 1888, when he came to the city to make his home, and to establish himself in his present business with A. Pierson, an early settler and prominent business man of the place. They carry a general stock of hardware, queensware and harness, and do quite an extensive business. Mr. Bridges also has an interest in the Sterling Lumber Company, of which he is the Treasurer, having been elected to that office when the company was organized in 1887.

Mr. Bridges was married in November, 1877, to Miss Flora E. Atkins, a sister of W. C. Atkins, whose biography appears in this volume. Their happy wedded life has been blessed to them by the birth of three children—Mabel, Walter and Thomas. Mrs. Bridges is a valued member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while Mr. Bridges is connected with the Christian Church. They are quiet, unostentatious people, whose pleasant home is the center of genuine hospitality.

Mr. Bridges is a man of culture and much and varied information, for though left an orphan at an early age he attended school while he lived in Massachusetts, and he continued to do so winters after he came to Nebraska, and thus obtained the preliminaries of a sound education, which he completed by a course at the Nebraska Normal, where he was a student for one year. He is a man of good business talents, and prompt and straightforward in his dealings.



CHRISTIAN POHLENZ is prominently identified with the wealthy and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers who have done so much to develop the vast agricultural interests of Johnson County, and his large farm in Helena Precinct, with its broad, well-tilled acres, its fine orchards, and its substantial buildings, is one of the most valuable estates for many miles around.

Mr. Pohlenz was born in Prussia, May 9, 1823, and there grew to manhood. He early learned the trade of blacksmith, which he followed in his native

country six years. He was married to Caroline Schubine, and in 1859 came to the United States with his wife and three children. He had but \$80, with which he bought a cow, a cook stove, and some flour, and thus he and his family began their life in this country. He located in Waukesha County, Wis., and there worked for eight years at his trades of blacksmith and cooper, having learned the latter trade after settling in Wisconsin. In 1867 he resolved to move to Nebraska and avail himself of the cheap and fertile lands that were for sale by the Government, and make his home in the future under its sunny skies, and receive the benefit of its genial climate. After coming here he purchased, under the provisions of the Homestead Act, 160 acres of land, which is located on section 15, and on this he has erected a fine large brick house, a commodious barn, extensive corn cribs and granaries, and windmills, with large stock tanks. His house, which is of a good style of architecture, and is neat and well-arranged inside, was built at the cost of \$2,000. He has seventeen acres in orchards, from which he derives a good income, and he has six acres of forest, which he planted himself, and from which every year he sells a number of cords of wood, besides devoting a large supply to home uses. He bought 240 acres of school land on section 16, shortly after coming here, which he has under good cultivation, and has it well fenced with hedge. His farm now comprises in all 400 acres of rich and productive land, located on sections 15 and 16, Helena Precinct, and under his skillful management it has been brought to a high state of tillage, that which was once wild prairie land when it came into his possession, now yielding bountiful harvests. This has been brought about only by the quiet force of persistent and well-directed toil, as Mr. Pohlenz's earthly possessions when settling here consisted of \$300 in money, a team of horses and a wagon. Mr. Pohlenz has met with gratifying success in raising stock, to which he devotes much attention. Every year he raises some Norman horses, some Poland-China hogs, and he has a fine herd of cattle of a good grade, mostly Short-horns. Mr. Pohlenz has, with characteristic shrewdness and enterprise, invested some of his wealth in real estate in the

growing and prosperous town of Sterling, and he also has \$500 worth of stock in the Sterling Lumber Co. He has erected in that town a large brick business house, at a cost of \$5,000, and a residence house, costing \$400.

The following are the seven children born of the happy wedded life of our subject and his estimable wife: August, Paul; Augusta, living in the Black Hills; Aurelia, living in Wymore, Gage Co., Neb.; these are all married; George, Edward and Mary are still at home. Mr. Pohlenz and his family are members of the German Lutheran Church, and they stand high in this community for their sterling worth and many pleasant social qualities.

Mr. Pohlenz may well take pride in his splendid farm and in the fact that his fortunes are of his own building, that he is, indeed, a "self-made" man. Also that he has been able to contribute so much to the advancement of Helena Precinct and Johnson County, his liberality and public spiritedness making him vie with his neighbors in promoting all schemes for the material advancement of both. He is a man thoroughly to be depended upon, as his honesty and integrity are beyond question, and his kind heart and genial manners have won him many warm-hearted friends. Mr. Pohlenz and family lived the first thirteen years after coming to Nebraska in a dug-out.



JOHN E. HALL. Among numbers of other resolute and energetic men, who, in the fall of 1866, made their way to the Territory of Nebraska, the subject of this sketch wended his way to Johnson County with his wife and children in the fall of that year, and homesteaded 160 acres of land on section 13, Spring Creek Precinct, where he is still located. They made the journey from Michigan, and found here not a shelter for their heads, nothing but a tract of uncultivated prairie, with few indications that the eyes of white men had ever been turned in this direction. Their first shelter was a plank house, and after gathering about himself and little family the things which they most urgently needed for their comfort, Mr. Hall applied himself with energy to the cultivation of the

soil and the development of his farm. The success with which he labored is indicated in his present surroundings, which compare admirably with those of his neighbors.

Our subject began life at the modest homestead of his parents in Wayne County, Ohio, May 3, 1825. His father, Nathan Hall, was a farmer by occupation, and in early manhood had married Miss Permella Stanley, with whom he trod the journey of life until they were separated by the death of the wife in 1863.

Nathan Hall was a native of Monongalia County, in West Virginia, and his wife Permella was born in Berkshire County, Mass. They were of Scotch and English ancestry, and the elder Hall served under the grandfather of the President-elect, Gen. Harrison, familiarly known as Old Tippecanoe, in the War of 1812. This branch of the Hall family had its representatives in America prior to the Revolutionary War, they settling first in New Hampshire, whence they emigrated at an early day to the soil of the Old Dominion. There they were closely allied to the F. F. V.'s, people of good standing in their community and generally well-to-do.

To the parents of our subject there were born nine children, six of whom are living, namely: Nabbe M., the wife of E. O. Johnson, of Barry County, Mich.; Elizabeth P., Mrs. Anway, a widow, also of that county; Esther C., Mrs. C. H. Brewer, of Ulster County, N. Y.; Jonas A., a resident of Michigan; Amos C., of Phillips County, Kan.; and John E., our subject, the sixth child. The deceased were Minerva S., Ezra S. and Joanna M. The parents removed from Virginia to Medina County, Ohio, in 1817, and two years later to Wayne County, taking up a tract of Government land, and settling among the earliest pioneers of that region, lived in Wayne County until 1834. They then returned to Medina County, where they continued to reside until about 1852, then moved to Michigan, and in Barry County repeated the experiment of pioneer life. The mother rested from her earthly labors in Michigan, in 1863. The elder Hall survived his estimable wife a period of ten years, his death taking place also in Michigan, in 1873.

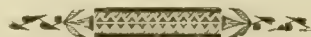
John E. Hall was reared to manhood amid the

pioneer scenes of the Buckeye State, receiving his education in its primitive schools, which, it is hardly necessary to say bore little comparison to the advantages of the present day. He, however, was ever a thoughtful and studious boy, and made the most of his opportunity in the perusal of good books, and has always kept himself well informed upon topics of general interest. He has followed farming mostly, but has also worked as a carpenter considerably, laboring in his field very successfully, although never professing to be a skilled mechanic. 1852 found him in Barry County, Mich., where he took up 220 acres of Government land, upon which he operated until 1865, when he sold out preparatory to coming to Nebraska. In that county also he found his wife, formerly Miss Lucy A. Hamilton, to whom he was married May 3, 1860.

The wife of our subject is the daughter of James S. and Caroline (Colton) Hamilton, who are now residents of Spring Creek Precinct, and of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there have been born ten children, nine of whom are now living, namely: Ernest S., Emmett E., Helen M., Cora L., Hattie A., Albert S., Guy E., Vesta A. and Nathan. Four of these were born in Barry County, Mich., and the others in this county. They are bright and intelligent, and form a group of which their parents may be reasonably proud.

The property of Mr. Hall is the accumulation of his own industry, and he may most properly be classed among the self-made men of Johnson County, who, in the building up of their homesteads, have erected for themselves an enduring monument, and whose record may be looked upon with pride by their children after them. Mr. Hall, politically, first identified himself with the Whig party, but is in full sympathy with the working element of the county, and now lends his support to the Union Labor movement. He has served as School Director in his district a number of years, and socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity, being a member of Tecumseh Lodge No. 17. While a resident of Barry County, Mich., he was elected to the office of Sheriff, the duties of which he discharged in a satisfactory manner two years, besides representing Hope Township on the County

Board of Supervisors. He has also served as Township Clerk and Treasurer, and occupied many positions of trust and responsibility among his fellow-citizens wherever he has been. Both he and his estimable wife stand high in the social circles of their community, and have gathered around them hosts of friends wherever they have chanced to reside.



JOHN H. CROW, dealer in coal and wood, weigher, etc., is upholding a portion of the business interests of Tecumseh with credit to himself and satisfaction to all with whom he deals. A native of Cass County, Ill., he was born March 14, 1826, and received his education mostly in the schools of his native township. He was reared a farmer's boy, and when setting out in life on his own account occupied himself as a farmer in Sangamon County, Ill., of which he was a resident for a period of twenty years. There also he became an extensive land-holder, being owner at one time of about 1,000 acres, most of which was improved land. He also engaged quite extensively in stock-raising and accumulated a snug property. A sudden fall in values was the occasion of great loss, and he finally decided to repair his misfortunes on the other side of the Mississippi.

Mr. Crow came to Richardson County, this State, in the fall of 1869, and purchased a tract of land near the rising town of Humboldt, upon which he lived four years. Then selling out he came to Tecumseh, of which he has since been a resident, and until 1883 was mostly interested in live stock. In the summer of that year he established his present business. He is rapidly placing himself upon a solid basis, and is the owner of a good home just outside the city limits on Second street. The city, however, is rapidly growing up around him, and his property will in consequence increase in value.

Mr. Crow in 1865 entered 10,000 acres of land within twelve miles of Tecumseh, for the sum of seventy cents an acre. Had he retained possession of this he would have had far more than enough and to spare for his declining years. He has been prominent in local affairs, and in the spring of 1874 was elected Mayor of Tecumseh on

the Republican ticket. A man genial and companionable, he has hosts of friends among all classes of people. His career has been that indicative of a gentleman by birth and breeding.

Our subject on the 5th of September, 1849, closed one of the most important contracts of his life by his marriage with Miss Sarah F. Dillon, of Sangamon County, Ill. The young people commenced the journey of life together in a snug home at Ashland, Ill., and their household was completed by the birth of three children, one of whom, Henry L., died in Nebraska, March 13, 1874, when twenty-two years old; Elizabeth is the wife of Albert Harrison, a railroad official residing at White Pigeon, Mich., and the mother of four children; Robert married Miss Louise Campbell, is a printer by trade and an editor by profession, and makes his home in Sturgis, Dak. The mother of these children departed this life at her home in Illinois, Jan. 19, 1855.

Mr. Crow contracted a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Parthenia R. Dillon, a sister of his first wife, March 23, 1862. Of this union there have been born two children, Sarah and Lilly R. Mrs. Parthenia Crow was born Nov. 1, 1841, in Sangamon County, Ill., and is the daughter of Joshua and Elizabeth Dillon. The father is still living, making his home with his youngest son in Vesta. The mother is deceased, dying Oct. 27, 1888. The 23d of March, 1889, would have witnessed the sixtieth anniversary of their marriage, had the mother lived a few months longer.

William Crow, the father of our subject, was born March 5, 1793, in Wythe County, Va. He left the Old Dominion when a child with his parents, they removing to Barren County, Ky., where William became familiar with farm pursuits and developed into manhood. Subsequently he occupied himself as farmer and minister combined, and spent the remainder of his life in Morgan and Cass Counties, Ill. He became a resident of the Prairie State in 1819, and was one of the earliest pioneers of Morgan County, where he carried on farming extensively. His first wife became the mother of two children and died. He was married a second time in 1824, to Miss Susan Hall, and of this union there were also born two children, our subject and

his sister, Mary A., who is now the wife of James L. Beggs, of Ashland, Ill. The mother departed this life at the homestead in Illinois, April 10, 1845. William Crow survived his wife a period of twenty years, passing away on the 22d of August, 1865.

John Crow, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was also a native of Virginia, where he lived and carried on farming until a few years before his death. He then removed to Kentucky, where he died about 1810, when still a young man, being only thirty-eight years old. Miss Sarah Crow, a daughter of our subject, March 4, 1883, was married to William Wheatley, of Tecumseh, and is the mother of one child, a son Frederick. Mr. Wheatley is a native of Ohio, an honest, industrious man and a reputable citizen.

hON. WILLIAM FREEBURN, a well-known pioneer of Johnson County, is one of the foremost citizens of the town of Sterling, of which he was an early settler. He is President of the Sterling Lumber Company, is Vice President of the Bank of Sterling, of which he was one of the founders, and he is a member of the City Council. He is a native of Scotland, born in that country Oct. 7, 1828. When a boy of thirteen years he came to the United States with his parents, Robert and Elizabeth (Laird) Freeburn. They located in what is now West Virginia, where the father died in 1856, and where the mother still makes her home with her daughters.

Our subject was thus for the most part reared and educated under the Democratic institutions of this country, and he has proved a loyal and worthy citizen. In 1855 he came as far West as Iowa, and after a stay in that State of two years, he came to Nebraska in 1857. This part of the country was then under Territorial government, and presented a wild and uninhabited appearance, although there were a number of Indians here who devoted the land to hunting purposes, as wild game was plentiful. There were only three white families on the river from Tecumseh to twenty miles further up the stream; these being the families of a Mr. Darby, who lived three miles northwest of Tecumseh; a

Mr. Bentz, who lived here, and who had earlier laid out Sterling, and D. J. Baker's family, five miles to the north. Mr. Freeburn located in Johnson County, about six miles northwest of the present site of Sterling, and there he bought 160 acres of land of the United States, took up eighty acres under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and bought forty acres of an early settler. In the years that followed, by persistent labor and able management, he brought this land under a high state of cultivation, provided it with good buildings, and when he sold it, about three years since, it was one of the best improved farms in this part of the county, and brought a round sum of money, much above its original cost. Mr. Freeburn early came to Sterling to work at his trade of carpenter, even before the town was laid out, and five years since he came here to make his permanent home. He built a number of the houses of Sterling, and laid out that part of it called Kneeland's Addition. Besides being such an important factor in the up-building of the town as a carpenter, as a capitalist, he has entered heartily into the various schemes for its improvement. He is very liberal, and has contributed generously to advance any good cause, and thus, although not a member of any religious organization, he has helped to build and sustain churches. We have referred to the part that he takes in city affairs as one of its civic officers. He is one of the organizers of the bank of Sterling, and in 1881 was elected to the present position that he occupies among its officials. As President of the Sterling Lumber Company he has directed its affairs with great vigor and wisdom, and has greatly extended its business, which amounts to from \$50,000 to \$60,000 a year, the expenses being about \$100 a month. Aside from his interest in this company he has some valuable pieces of residence property in the city.

Our subject has worked his way up to a position of wealth by an indomitable will, seconded by industrious habits and a sound judgment, as when he came to Nebraska City he was a comparatively poor man. Mr. Freeburn is one of the leading Democrats of Johnson County, and his popularity and the confidence in which he is held by his fellow-citizens far beyond the limits of his home are

indicated by the fact that he was elected to the State Legislature in 1882, to represent a constituency strongly Republican, being the first Democrat ever elected to that position from this county. He is prominently identified with the Masons of this locality, being a member of Sterling Lodge No. 70, A. F. & A. M.



MARCUS WALKER. This gentleman, a very successful farmer and stock dealer, whose residence is upon section 8, Western Precinct, and who makes his headquarters at Crab Orchard, was born in Clermont County, Ohio, on the 12th of September, 1836. His father, William C. Walker, was a Kentuckian, and was born in Fleming County. He was one of the early settlers of Clermont County. His son, the subject of this writing, was reared upon his father's farm and from his boyhood has been thoroughly conversant with all the various parts and points connected with this calling.

The subject of our sketch received a very limited education in his native county. He migrated to Pike County, Ill., in 1854, settling first in Summer Hill and later in New Hartford. He came to this county in March, 1864, and made his home on his present property. At that time the face of the country was unchanged from what it had been for ages and there were very few settlers in the district. He went 100 miles west to Ft. Kearney to sell his grain, and to St. Joseph, Mo., a distance of 113 miles, to buy his goods. Whenever he had occasion for blacksmith work a journey to Pawnee City, distant twenty-five miles, was necessary. He homesteaded 160 acres of land and has been very successful, both as a farmer and stock-raiser, in the latter department giving attention more especially to the higher grades of cattle. He is now the owner of 400 acres of improved land, which is provided with the large majority of implements necessary for the successful operation of the same.

On the 24th of August, 1858, Mr. Walker became the husband of Martha M. Hoskins. The father of this lady, Henry William Hoskins, resided during the latter years of his life in Pike County,

Ill. There also his daughter Martha was born and reared. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are the parents of thirteen children, ten of whom are living. Their names are recorded as follows: Lucy, George H., Henry W., Ida M., Sarah A., Elmer, Oscar, James M., Marcus E. and Charles. Lucy is now the wife of Warren L. Marshall, of Crab Orchard, and is the mother of three children, viz: Ralph, Beatrice and an infant unnamed; George is happily married to Ida Barham, and resides on section 5 of this precinct, and has one daughter, to whom was given the name Eva.

Mr. Walker is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is also a firm supporter of the Prohibition party. He is not prominent, however, in political circles, being somewhat retiring in disposition, and for the same reason does not seek official honors, but is highly respected in the community, as he is also in religious circles.



JOB ARMSTEAD. Among the prosperous, well-to-do citizens of Lincoln Precinct is the subject of this sketch, whose beautiful farm of 160 acres of tillable, fertile land is situated on section 33, township 5 north, range 12 east. He is a native of what is now Fulton County, Pa., and was born Jan. 14, 1827, to Jacob and Rebecca (Knable) Armstead, both natives of Pennsylvania, but of Scotch and German extraction. His maternal great-grandfather, Mr. Laverne, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War. An uncle, Enoch Knable, was also a soldier, and served throughout the Black Hawk War, while yet another uncle, Daniel Knable, fought in the Seminole Indian War in Florida.

When our subject was about six years of age he accompanied his parents, who removed to Maryland, where the father died within a few months after their arrival. Our subject remained with his mother until he came of age, who gave him every possible opportunity in her power to give him that home and school training which she realized was necessary if he were to fulfill her hopes in future years. His youth was spent upon the farm,

and he thoroughly understands all the minutia and detail of farm work. As the result of his own efforts he has become a well-informed man, and capable of handling current topics with ease and ability.

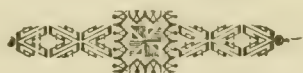
The marriage of our subject with Rachel Hoof was celebrated at Bath, Va., on the 23d of May, 1850. The lady of his choice was born in Germany on the 21st of March, 1819, and is the daughter of Conrad and Catharine Hoof, by whom she was brought to this country when an infant. The ocean voyage, of which necessarily she has no recollection, excepting as it has been supplied by her parents, occupied over nineteen weeks. They finally landed at the city of Baltimore, and from there went to Virginia, where her parents died.

To Mr. and Mrs. Armstead ten children have been born; five of these survive, whom we mention as follows: Alexander, now in Missouri engaged in farming; Catharine, who was married to Charles Waterworth, of Mason County, Ill.; William, a resident of Thayer County; Rebecca and Susan, who are at home. Besides these there is an adopted son, Daniel R. Dawson. The deceased children were named as follows: Mary I., Sarah E., John and Harriet M.

With the intention of migrating westward our subject and family left Virginia in the spring of 1864, locating in Peoria County, Ill., and resided there until the spring of 1866, when removal was made to this county. Here a homestead claim of 160 acres situated as mentioned above was taken up, and upon it he has continued to reside from that time. It was, of course, in a virgin state, and it remained for him to develop its resources and bring it to a condition of cultivation that would render it profitable to him. This he has done with gratifying and more than expected success. Throughout the years of their companionship he has always found in his wife a faithful and devoted helpmate, having their truest interests at heart, one in whom he could confide and with whom he could counsel.

Mr. Armstead is a true and loyal citizen; his political associations are with the Democratic party. Religiously, both he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he

has served as Steward and Class-Leader for a number of years. They are also active members of society locally, and are everywhere accorded the heartiest confidence and regard.



DAVID R. BUSH, whose reputation as a railroad contractor is by no means confined to Johnson County, was born on the 19th of March, 1848, near Utica, N. Y. His parents removed when he was about four years of age to Kenosha County, Wis., and lived there four years; then they went to Illinois, his father having died at that time, and his mother believing it would be wise to make the change. Their new home was at Plattville, and there he received all the education that his mother could give him, taking his place in the common schools of that town. Upon leaving school he went to farming, and became quite successful although but a young man, continuing until 1867, when he determined to move West, and came to Vesta Precinct, Johnson County, and took a farm. This he moved upon and began the work of improving it. From untamed prairie land he speedily brought it to a splendid state of cultivation, but was not satisfied until he had made it one of the finest farms in the district. Selling that property, he removed to Nemaha Precinct, where he engaged in his trade.

While in Vesta Precinct Mr. Bush had begun and carried on some little blacksmithing and carriage work, but now launched into the business in earnest, continuing thus engaged until 1882. In March, 1880, he moved to the city of Tecumseh, where he had built a fine residence on Clay street, between First and Second, which he has continued ever since to make his home. At the time of his settlement in Vesta Precinct there were but a few settlers scattered here and there along the different creeks. Bridges had not yet been built, though much desired, settlers were few, and schools rather remarkable by their absence than otherwise. The only institution in his precinct had lost its school-house by fire, and so was minus.

Moving to town, Mr. Bush continued his trade,

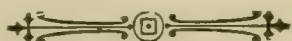
but after four years it was given into the hands of a foreman, who continued it. At that time our subject was elected to the County Treasurership on the Republican ticket, and served through the term of 1883, with much credit to himself and satisfaction to the public, so much so that he was offered a re-election, but in 1885 he devoted himself to his work as a railroad contractor, and speedily had his hands and shops full. He has been connected with the Rock Island & Fairbury branch of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and upon quite a large number of their branch lines in Illinois and Nebraska, his last one being that at LaSalle, Ill. He takes deep interest in his work, is very exact and thorough, so that his contracts have always been filled and satisfactorily accepted, and at the same time have left him financially successful. In his work Mr. Bush has been connected with the well-known firm of Reynolds Bros., of Wymore, also Fitzgerald, Kilpatrick and others.

While a resident of Vesta Precinct our subject was on the School Board the greater part of the time, and always took the greatest interest in that work. He has been a member of the I. O. O. F., and is a Knight of Pythias, prominent in the order, and of good standing. He has always been a staunch supporter of the Republican party, and a representative man of the city, honored and respected by all who know him, whether in social, political or business circles.

Mr. Bush, while a resident of Vesta, became the husband of Miss Sarah E. Ross, their marriage being celebrated on the 18th of June, 1872. The children whose names are appended form their family circle: Eugene H., Edith M., Robert R., Ethel P., Laura and Florence LaRue, all of whom are at home with their parents, who are giving to them the best education the institutions of Tecumseh afford. Mrs. Bush is the daughter of J. M. and Ellen (Saunders) Ross. She was born in the State of Illinois, on the 19th of January, 1855, and accompanied her parents when they removed to Nebraska in 1865. Her father is still a farmer, enterprising and prosperous in the above precinct, and with his wife, is enjoying the fruits of their joint toil in the past. They are the parents of eight children, whom they have brought to mature years. Both are greatly

esteemed in the Baptist communion, of which they have for many years been members.

The father of our subject, Thaddeus Bush, was a native of Germany. He came to this country when a young man, and settled near Utica, N. Y., where he took a farm and there continued to live until 1852, when he removed to Wisconsin, where he died four years later, aged forty-four years. His wife was a native of New York, and previous to her marriage bore the name of Alvina Andrews. She presented her husband with five children, who subsequently took their places in the ranks of the honored citizens of this community. Both were members of the Baptist Church for many years. Mrs. Bush moved to Plattville, and subsequently, in 1867, to DeKalb County, afterward coming West with our subject, at whose home she died in the year 1878, aged sixty-three years.



JOHIN B. SHARRETT, one of the prosperous farmers, fully abreast of the times in all matters pertaining to his occupation, and one of the prominent men in religious circles, and a much valued citizen of Lincoln Precinct, is a native of Fayette County, Ohio, where he was born on the 8th of April, 1826. His parents, John and Nancy Sharrett, were natives of Virginia. His father, who served in the War of 1812, settled in the Buckeye State shortly after the conclusion of hostilities. Of nine children born to them the following survive: Jane, the wife of Robert Snell, of Xenia, Ohio; Mary, who is married to Frederick Shigley, of Ft. Madison, Iowa; Elizabeth, now Mrs. L. D. Slade, of Elgin, Ill.; Martha, the wife of Andrew Wolf, of Jay County, Ind.; and our subject. Both parents of our subject died in the year 1862.

Mr. Sharrett was reared in Fayette County, Ohio, where he lived until he was about twenty years of age. All his early life was spent upon the farm, and from boyhood he worked at whatever duties could be assigned him, with the result that he has become a thoroughly practical farmer. Upon reaching the above-mentioned age he removed to Greene County, Ohio, where he began to learn the brick-

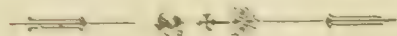
mason and plastering trade. This he continued to follow for a number of years at Xenia, in that county.

The marriage of our subject with Elizabeth Straley, the daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Straley, natives of Virginia, was celebrated on the 20th of July, 1850, at Fayette, Ohio. Mrs. Sharrett was born in Fayette County, Ohio, and until her marriage lived with her parents. She has presented her husband with eleven children, four of whom are now living, viz: Francis M., now of Crab Orchard, in this State; Lafayette, of this county; Luella, the wife of William A. Barnett, of Lincoln Precinct, in this county; and George P., of Nemaha County.

Accompanied by his family our subject came to this county, in 1856, and pre-empted 160 acres of land on section 18, township 5 north, range 12 east. This is the property he still owns, but to which he subsequently added ten acres. The entire 170 acres are thoroughly improved and in a high state of cultivation, yielding him, other things being equal, crops above the average. At the time of his settlement it is said there were but two houses within the boundaries of Johnson County, and they were by no means completed, so that he is among the first actual settlers in the county, which he has watched with pride as it has been transformed from its original to its present condition. Studied as it is with well tilled, cultivated and stocked farms, it is one of the most progressive and wealthy counties of the State. Our subject has made a specialty of raising Short-horn cattle, and the better grades of some other varieties of cattle.

Mr. Sharrett was chosen one of the first Commissioners, and in fact helped the organization thereof, and so well did he fill the duties pertaining to his office, that for thirteen consecutive years his constituents continued to return him to the office. For several terms also he held the office of Assessor, where he was also faithful in the discharge of his duties, as elsewhere. In politics he has always been a stanch Republican. Deeply interested in all educational matters, he has rendered effectual service to the Board of Education, of which he was a member for many years. Religiously, he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which he is

devoted, as is also Mrs. Sharrett, both are held in the highest possible regard. Our subject holds the offices of Trustee, Steward and Class-Leader of the church, and he is one of the pillars of the organization. In the social order of Odd Fellowship he is acknowledged a member in good standing, and is accorded the confidence of all his fellow-members.



ELMER W. NELSON represents valuable farm property in Lincoln Precinct to the extent of 320 acres of land, with convenient and substantial buildings, and devotes his attention largely to stock-raising. His homestead is located on section 26, and he is numbered among the representative men of the county, one who has taken a genuine interest in its progress, and has contributed in no small degree toward bringing it to its present position.

A native of the Dominion, our subject was born in the city of Perth, District of Bath, Jan. 1, 1836, and is the son of James and Martha (Courtley) Nelson, who were natives of Ireland, and who crossed the Atlantic in their youth, settling with their parents in Canada, where they were married and lived until 1851. They became the parents of ten children, seven of whom survive, namely: Elmer W., our subject; Margaret, the widow of Mr. Longworth, of LaSalle County, Ill.; James, a resident of Bureau County, Ill.; Letitia, the wife of Alexander Holtzook, of Bureau County; William and Josiah in Dakota; and Isabelle, Mrs. Gordon Rytchmyre, of Princeton, Ill. The deceased are: George, Mary and Martha, who died at the ages of sixteen years, two years, and ten months, respectively.

Our subject was educated in the public schools of his native Province, which he left when about eighteen years of age, and removed with his parents to LaSalle County, Ill. They located first in the town of LaSalle, but a year later removed to a farm in that county, where Elmer W. remained with his parents until his marriage. This important event in his life occurred June 23, 1857, his bride being Miss Margaret McKibben. Mrs. Nelson was born in Upper Canada, May 27, 1834, being

the daughter of Daniel and Johanna (Murphy) McKibben, who were natives of Ireland, and crossed the Atlantic, each with their parents, when young in years. They were married in the city of Ottawa, and became the parents of three children, the eldest of whom, Henry, died when about three years old. The survivors are Mrs. Nelson and her sister Annie, the latter a resident of Pennsylvania. The father died in Canada about 1836, and the mother survived him until 1845.

To our subject and his estimable wife there have been born eight children, namely: Margaret J., the wife of James Morrisy, of Vesta Precinct; Elmer G., James H., Mary M., Alexander F., Martha A. and Maude L. The deceased child, a son, Allen, died when about eighteen months old. Shortly after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Nelson took up their residence in Bureau County, Ill., where our subject engaged in farming, and whence, in the spring of 1881, he came with his family to this county, and purchased the land which he now owns and occupies. He began life with very little capital, but was strong in hope and stout in muscle, and being assisted by one of the most devoted and industrious of women, has accumulated a competence for his old age.

Mr. Nelson was a resident of Henry County, Ill., a period of twenty years, during which time he served as County Commissioner one term, and School Director eight years. Here also he has been a School Director in his district, and in politics is independent, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson, although having labored industriously many years in the accumulation of their property, are still in the prime of life, and capable of enjoying years of prosperity and happiness.



HENRY SCHUMANN, Lincoln Precinct recognizes no better citizen within its borders than the subject of this sketch, who is comfortably situated on section 9, and is busily engaged as a general farmer and stock-raiser. A native of Rock Island, Ill., he was born April 7, 1855, and is the son of John and Elsaba (Brandt)

JOHNSON COUNTY.

209

Schumann, who were both natives of Holstein, Germany.

The parents of our subject emigrated to America about 1851, settling in Rock Island County, Ill., where the father carried on agriculture a few seasons, then changed his residence to Henry County, where he lived until the summer of 1870. Thence they crossed the Mississippi into this county, and settled upon the land which their son Henry now owns and occupies. Here the father lived and labored until the illness which resulted in his death, May 24, 1886, when he was about seventy-four years old. The mother only survived her husband a few months, her death taking place in August following. They were the parents of five children, three of whom are living, namely: John D., a resident of Nebraska; Anna S., the wife of G. M. Shrouf, of Kansas, and Henry, our subject. Both parents were members in good standing of the German Lutheran Church, and were widely and favorably known throughout Lincoln Precinct, where they enjoyed in a marked degree the esteem and confidence of its best people.

John Schumann came a pioneer to this county before a furrow had been turned upon the land which he chose for the scene of his future operations. He was a man of great energy and perseverance, and by the exercise of incessant industry and the closest economy built up for himself and those dear to him a comfortable and valuable home. Upon becoming a naturalized citizen he identified himself with the Democratic party, and in this, as in all his actions in life, exercised that conscientious course which impressed those around him with his moral worth and integrity. In his death Johnson County lost one of her most valued German citizens.

Henry Schumann accompanied his parents to Nebraska in the summer of 1870, and assisted in the development of the new farm. He had obtained a somewhat limited education in his native State, the advantages of those days being far behind those enjoyed by the youth of to-day. He has been occupied in farming pursuits all his life, and amid the green fields and quiet pursuits of the country finds his chief happiness. When not thirty years of age he was married, Jan. 20, 1885,

to Miss Annie, daughter of Frank Gorenz, who, like her parents, is a native of Poland, and was born May 17, 1865. Her father is a resident of Smootville; the mother is deceased. The family included twelve children, eight of whom are in Nebraska, one in Europe and three deceased.

Our subject and his wife began the journey of life together at the old homestead which has sanctified the former for so many years, and which comprises 120 acres of fertile land under a good state of cultivation, with suitable farm buildings. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children—Clarence H. and Anna Pauline. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schumann are members in good standing of the Catholic Church, and our subject, politically, is a thorough-going Democrat, a man of decided views, and upholding his principles with all the natural strength of his character. He was elected Assessor of Lincoln Precinct in the fall of 1887, serving his term acceptably, and received the nomination for the same office Oct. 11, 1888, and was re-elected. He has also been Treasurer for his school district for the last three years, and, being a descendant of a nationality paying special attention to the education and early training of its youth, is a firm believer in compulsory education. He takes a lively interest in politics, although no office-seeker, and in business matters is one of those men whose word is considered as good as his bond.

HARRISON W. MERRILL, one of the foremost business men of Johnson County, is a prominent merchant of the city of Sterling, which is much indebted to him for its high standing in the commercial world as an enterprising and prosperous municipality. He was born in Dover, Me., Feb. 11, 1841, and was reared and educated in that old New England town. His parents were Bradberry and Asenath (Blether) Merrill, natives of Durham, Me. The father died at the age of seventy-three years, and the mother is still living, and resides in Maine. She has attained the age of eighty-four years.

In March, 1861, our subject left the beautiful

scenes of his early home and went forth to seek his fortunes in the Great West, and during the first year of the war he lived in Stark County, Ill., and it was in Kewanee, Henry Co., Ill., in his young manhood, he resolved to become a soldier and fight for his country, enlisting Aug. 11, 1862, in Company F, 124th Illinois Infantry. He served faithfully and unfalteringly throughout the remainder of the war, and none in the ranks were braver or more efficient in camp or on the battlefield. He was in Gen. John A. Logan's division, and was with his regiment in every mile of march on their way through different parts of the South. He was only in a hospital ten days, when his comrades were encamped at Vicksburg. Through the many battles in which he fought he miraculously escaped without a wound, and returned home with his health impaired only by exposure.

After the war Mr. Merrill made his way back to his New England birthplace, and was a resident there until 1867, marrying in the meantime, on the first day of that year, Miss Felicia H. Mitchell. She is a native of Dover, Me., born July 18, 1843, and is a daughter of John and Charlotte (Littlefield) Mitchell.

After marriage Mr. Merrill removed to Massachusetts, where he engaged with D. W. Batchelor & Co., boot and shoe men. He remained with them three years, and then came to Nebraska, ambitious to try life again in the great and growing West, where he shrewdly foresaw he could invest the \$3,000 that he had accumulated after the war to a good advantage, and in a few years be numbered among the wealthy capitalists of this county. He first located in Blue Spring, Gage County, with his family, but in April, 1871, he bought a farm in Nemaha, Johnson Co., Neb., near Sterling, where he lived for some years. The land when he purchased it was unbroken, and it was his pioneer task to develop its agricultural resources, and to otherwise improve it, which he did, so that it became a valuable piece of property. After residing there ten years he moved into Sterling to engage in the mercantile business. He has a neat, well-appointed store, and carries a large stock of about \$10,000 worth of general merchandise. He has built up a large and flourishing trade, as his goods are of the

best, and he knows well how to cater to the wants of the public. Our subject's anticipations in coming to Nebraska have been fully realized, as he has accumulated much wealth. He now owns 480 acres of improved land in this and Pawnee Counties, some valuable property in Kansas City, Mo., a commodious residence in Sterling, and he has stock in the Sterling Lumber Company, of which he was one of the organizers, and is now one of the directors.

To our subject and his wife two children have been born—Bessie and Harry H. The latter died May 18, 1887, aged six years. Mr. Merrill and his wife are members of the Christian Church, and their daughter of the Baptist Church.

Mr. Merrill owes the acquisition of his wealth to the fact that he is a man of more than ordinary business and financial ability; his clear vision, sound wisdom, and singularly correct judgment in all that relates to commerce, make him pre-eminent in the business circles of this city. In him all worthy schemes for the advancement and improvement of Sterling find a cordial and liberal supporter. Especially is this true in regard to the education of the young, and during the three years that he was President of the School Board he used his influence to establish a school system which is not surpassed in any other city in the county. He is a pronounced Republican in his political views, but is not an aspirant for office. As a pleasant reminder of his army life he is now a member of Sill Post No. 99, G. A. R., of Sterling.



SAMUEL B. PARKER. The snug farm of eighty acres which is pleasantly located on section 11 in Center Precinct was built up from the primitive soil by the subject of this sketch, who moved upon it in the spring of 1883, and began at once the struggle with the soil which has brought him such admirable results. He has been prospered remarkably in his labors, and besides having brought the greater portion of his land to a productive condition, has erected a neat and substantial dwelling, with barns, corn cribs, and the other structures required for the

storing of grain and the shelter of stock. He has also planted shade and fruit trees, placed scores of rods of fencing, and has in all respects a home of which he may well be proud.

Mr. Parker has been a resident of this county since the spring of 1879, and has made for himself hosts of friends. A Southern man, he was born in Macon County, Tenn., Dec. 29, 1843, and was reared and educated in his native State. When a youth of sixteen years he migrated across the Mississippi into Cape Girardeau County, Mo., and two years later, after the outbreak of the Rebellion, signaled his patriotism by enlisting in Company G, 29th Missouri Infantry, in which he did faithful service until the 20th of March, 1863.

Our subject first saw the smoke of battle at Chalk Bluff, Ark., and being assigned to the Army of the Cumberland was present under the command of Gen. Sherman in the first engagement with the enemy at Vicksburg; subsequently he was in the fight at Arkansas Post and at Jackson, Miss., besides other minor engagements. For awhile he was on detached service, and then, as the result of hardship and exposure, was taken ill and sent to Jefferson Barracks, Mo. There he remained until being mustered out. He escaped wounds and capture, although at one time he received a serious scratch from the slivers of a fence near him which was torn by a cannon ball.

As a native of one of the Southern States Mr. Parker manifested his loyalty to an unusual degree. His forefathers were slave-holders, and the later members of the family were in sympathy with the Confederacy. Three of the cousins of Mr. Parker served during the war in the rebel army. His father, however, was a Union man, and a member of the Missouri Militia before the war. Samuel B., not long after receiving his honorable discharge, came to what was then the Territory of Nebraska, and located in Nemaha County, in the month of April, 1863. Thence, in 1879, he came to Johnson County, where he has since lived.

While a resident of Nemaha County our subject made the acquaintance of one of its most estimable young ladies, Miss Lutetia, daughter of Rev. Thomas D. Edwards, and they were wedded on the 14th of November, 1865. Mrs. Parker was born March 6,

1848, in Iowa. The maiden name of her mother was Rebecca Ashpaugh. The parental household included seven children, who are now scattered in the West. The father is now deceased, and the mother lives with our subject. To Mr. Parker and his estimable wife there have been born six children, namely: William, Nettie, Maude, Hattie, Grace and Clinton B. Fisk. They all continue at home with their parents. Mrs. Parker is a member in good standing of the Christian Church, and our subject, politically, is a Prohibitionist. He is a man liberal and progressive in his ideas, strict in his moral principles, a warm advocate of temperance, and the fact that as a Southern-born man he was loyal to the Government of the United States, is one to which his children may revert in after years, and in which they may justly take pride. It indicates perhaps more forcibly than anything we could name the chief characteristics of the man. Such a one can be trusted, and he is looked upon by his neighbors as a member of the community whose word is as good as his bond.

THOMAS W. MILKS, a leading citizen of Tecumseh, and the owner of a fine property within the city limits, has been for many years recognized as one of the leading citizens of this county. He is an ex-Mayor, and ex-Treasurer of the Johnson County Agricultural and Mechanical Society, and has most of the time during his residence in the county been prominently before the people as a citizen warmly interested in everything pertaining to its progress and welfare.

Our subject was born in Green County, Wis., Oct. 28, 1850, where he received a good education and lived until a youth of eighteen years. Then going into Stephenson County, Ill., he engaged in farming until 1880, when he came to this State, and locating in Tecumseh Precinct, engaged in farming one year, then changed his residence to Tecumseh, where he embarked in general merchandising. The year following his arrival here he purchased an interest in the Tecumseh flouring-mill, and in partnership with a Mr. Brandon operated this about two years. Then having an opportunity to sell out to

good advantage, he did so, and invested a portion of his capital in drugs and groceries, in partnership with Messrs. Rogers & Coffee, the firm name becoming Rogers, Coffee & Milks. They enjoyed a lucrative trade for two years, the store being located at the corner of Third and Clay streets, in Russell & Holmes' fine brick block.

In May, 1887, our subject disposed of his interests in the business above mentioned, and in company with E. B. Combs purchased a livery stock, which he operated with his partner until the 1st of January, 1888. Then selling out he turned his attention to farming, in which he has since been engaged. He is now a prosperous man, and his career is highly illustrative of the results of industry and perseverance. He has been careful to live within his income, prompt to meet his obligations, and his course through life has been that which has secured him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens. Politically, he is an ardent Republican, and upholds the principles of his party in a manner characteristic of the man.

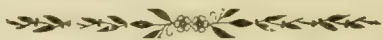
The marriage of our subject with Miss Elizabeth Place was celebrated in Stephenson County, Ill., Dec. 15, 1872. Of this union there have been born two children, Charles E. and Flora A., who continue at home with their parents, and are receiving the best educational advantages afforded in the county. Charles, a bright and studious boy, expects to be graduated from the Tecumseh High School in the class of '89. He is but a little over fifteen years old.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Place) Milks was born in Stephenson County, Ill., Sept. 29, 1854, and is the daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Bivens) Place. Her father was a native of New York, whence he removed early in life to Illinois and carried on farming in Stephenson County until his death, which occurred in the summer of 1877. His decease was attended with circumstances unusually sad, he having been drowned while fishing with a net. The mother is still living, and makes her home with her children, west of Tecumseh.

Ezra Milks, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, whence he emigrated to Wisconsin early in life and was there married to Miss Polly Phillips. They became the parents of three chil-

dren, of whom Thomas W. was the youngest. The mother died when the latter was a little lad four years of age, and he was then taken into the home of strangers. When eight years old he commenced working on a farm for himself for any one who would hire him. He seldom saw his father afterward, in fact, has only seen him three times since he was four years old, the latter having married and moved to Missouri.

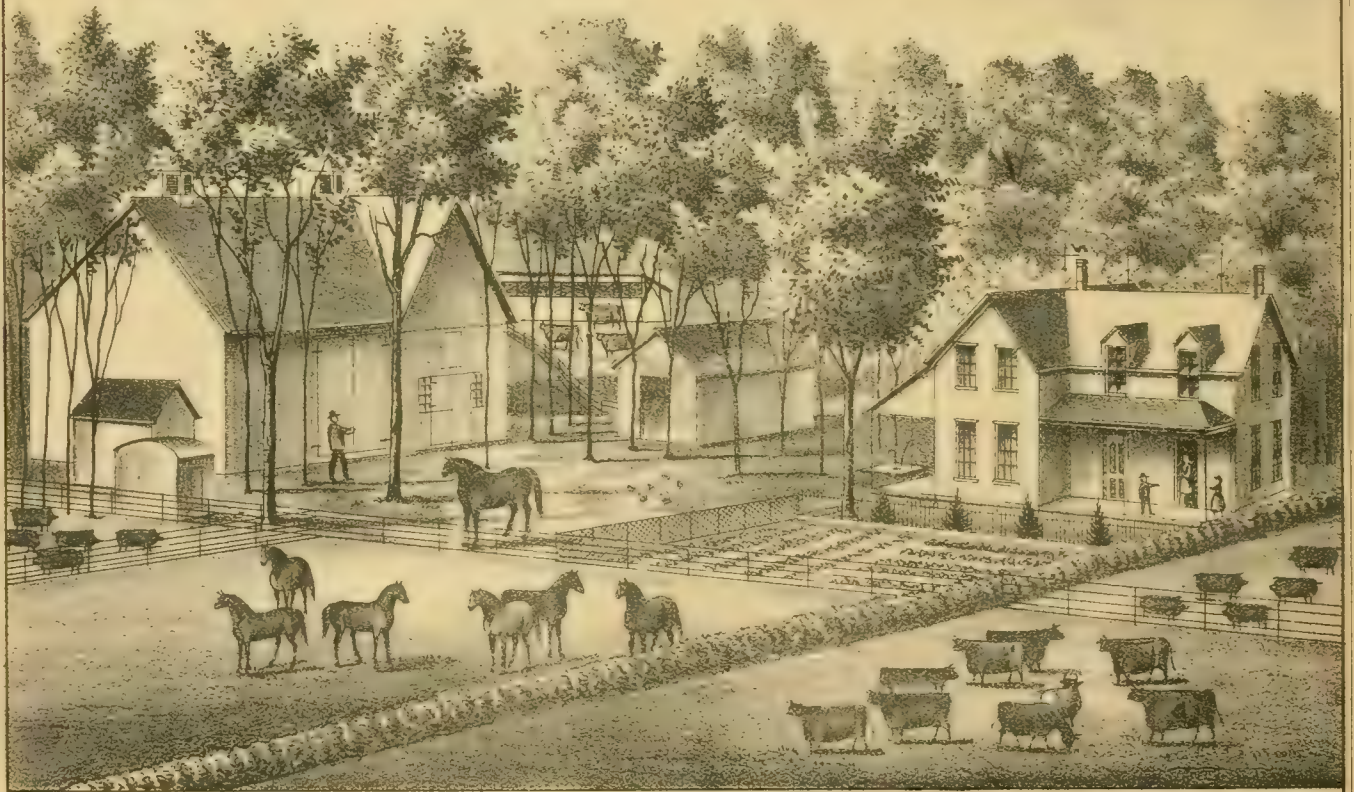
Our subject became identified with the Masonic fraternity while a resident of Illinois, and has still maintained his warm interest in the principles of the Brotherhood. He has held the various offices of his lodge, and with his estimable wife, belongs to Eastern Star Chapter. He is also connected with the Sons of Veterans.

 **M**ALCOLM STEWART, M. D. The medical profession possesses in the person of Dr. Stewart a most worthy and able representative, which statement will be most heartily endorsed by the numerous patients of Crab Orchard and the neighborhood, who have been fortunate enough to secure his services in the hour of their need. The Doctor is a graduate of the medical department of the State University of Iowa, and from the time he received his diploma until the present has been more than usually successful in the profession. He was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on the 30th of October, 1838. He is the son of John Stewart, of Black Hawk County, Iowa.

The subject of our sketch remained upon the farm with his father until 1878, when he entered the State Normal School at Cedar Falls, being graduated therefrom after completing the full curriculum in June of the year 1881. In the September following he took charge of the Cascade (Iowa) schools for one year, then, in 1882, he came to Tecumseh, and conducted the first institute here. During this time he had been reading medicine, and upon the conclusion of the Institute he entered the medical department of the University of Iowa City. He received his diploma on the 5th of March, 1884, and in the following May came to Vesta and began practice. This has grown day by



RESIDENCE OF J. NATHAN SOUDERS, SEC. 16. (6-11.) HELENA PRECINCT.



OAK GROVE STOCK FARM, PROPERTY OF C. H. BEETHE, SEC. 34. (4. 11.) TODD CREEK PRECT.

day until it is quite extensive and withal very remunerative.

Dr. Stewart was married on the 22d of June, 1884, the lady of his choice being Mary E. McGee, the daughter of Thomas C. McGee, a former highly respected resident of Vesta. The above marriage has been blessed by the birth of a son, Charles E., who has brought with him to the home a brightness and happiness even greater and deeper than that which characterized it prior to his advent. Both Dr. and Mrs. Stewart are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are accounted among the most devout and earnest supporters of the cause.

The Doctor is quite a politician, a staunch Republican, taking the greatest interest in advocating the plan of American protection for American labor. He is a man of much public spirit, and a typical American citizen, progressive, enterprising and prosperous.



CARL HENRY BEETHE is one of the representative citizens and pioneers of Johnson County, and owns an excellently cultivated, fertile farm of 154 acres on section 34 of Todd Creek Precinct. It is a model farm in every regard, without being so dubbed. Other things being equal, its harvests are of a model order, and the success, financial and otherwise, of our subject is beyond question. He has resided upon his present farm since the year 1869, when he first came to the State. It was then in such condition as allowed him the largest possible scope for effecting any purpose he might have in mind, being in every way like unto the surrounding prairie. By constant application, energy and labor he has brought it to its present excellent condition of beauty and productiveness. His residence he built in 1876, and it is now one of the best in the district. He also erected a large and commodious barn, and put in new out-buildings, which was somewhat of a departure from and improvement upon the previous condition of things, not only upon his own farm but in the district generally.

The subject of our sketch was born on the 15th of May, 1850, at Hessen, Germany. He was

eight years of age when he was taken to DuPage County, Ill., by his parents, who took up a claim there. The schools of that county provided him with such education and mental training as gave him a good foundation for his after life. That it has not been lost upon him is seen from his ability in the management of his farm. He was united in marriage with Miss Louisa Sodmann on the 30th of July, 1876, and of their union six children were born. Their names are as follows: Sophia, Minnie, Christopher, Carl, Christine and Dedrich. Mrs. Beethe was born on the 4th of September, 1859, near Dubuque, Iowa, to John and Frederike Sodmann.

Carl Beethe, the father of our subject, was born in Germany on the 7th of March, 1815. His wife, the mother of our subject, was Minnie Bueltemier. Their union resulted in the birth of twelve children, all but one of whom grew to maturity. The father came to Illinois in 1858 with his family, and in 1869 settled upon the farm he now owns, which he has made all that it is. He now lives a quiet, retired life, leaving to a son the care of the farm. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, and in political affairs stands with the Republican party.

The subject of our sketch makes a specialty of raising thoroughbred Poland-China hogs and high-grade stock, and has made a very careful provision with this purpose in mind, having every practical arrangement for rendering his work as effective, convenient and profitable as possible. He is the owner of a very fine Clydesdale stallion, weighing about 1,500, which has quite a reputation in the district. His herd of Short-horns numbers about sixty, all of them valuable high-grade stock.

Mr. Beethe has made his way in the world almost unaided, and has been largely prospered in all his efforts. He is a man whose character has always been above suspicion, honorable, strictly honest in all business transactions, one whose word could at all times be taken. He has frequently held various offices, and has been both Supervisor and Assessor. In 1883 he was elected County Commissioner, serving the county with ability. He is a member in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and in politics supports Republican principles. Frequently has he been called upon to represent the county as a dele-

gate to conventions and meetings, and he is enjoying the confidence of the people of the county, being everywhere held in high regard. For a view of his home see another page.

JONATHAN SOUDERS. Most of the best citizens of Nebraska are found among the members of the agricultural community, because being a comparatively new country they are in a large majority. Among those who best represent American citizenship is the subject of our sketch, the owner of a good farm of 160 acres on section 16, township 6 north, range 11 east, of Helena Precinct.

The subject of our sketch is the son of William and Hannah Souders, and was born on the 8th of June, 1828, in Fulton County, Pa., in which State both his parents were also born. He is the oldest child born to his parents, and was reared to manhood, received his education and made his first start in life in his native State. From early boyhood he has been engaged in agricultural pursuits, and having had a natural liking for that kind of life has been quite successful in his labor.

Mr. Souders has been twice married. His first was celebrated in Pennsylvania in 1852, the lady of his choice being Elizabeth Hull, who was born in Maryland, and was the daughter of Abraham and Mary Hull. By this marriage he became the parent of four children, viz.: William A., Edward, John, and an infant who died unnamed. The first mentioned is the only one still living. The maiden name of his second wife was Jane Mullinix, the daughter of John and Susan Mullinix, of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Of the children of this union five are now deceased. We mention those who survive as follows: Annie, wife of Edward Chastain, of this county; Addie, Clyde, Lizzie, Albert B., Cora and Lewis. Those deceased were named Clarence, Daniel, Pearl L., Avery and Alvey.

In the year 1869 our subject left Pennsylvania for the West, and located finally in Knox County, Ill., where he made his home and saw considerable success, remaining there until 1872; then he determined to make another removal, and came to

this county in 1873 and settled upon his present property. The entire 160 acres he has brought to a very fine condition and has greatly improved it. His house and farm buildings are quite good, and his farm is well cultivated. He usually raises corn and oats, and sees good results accruing. A view of the place is shown on another page.

Mr. Souders looks with pride upon the improved condition of things since the time he came to this State, and is glad to be able to remember that he has at all times been of such spirit as to do all he could to advance those interests. He is a member of the German Baptist (Dunkard) Church, as is also his wife. For the last ten years he has officiated as Deacon in that communion. He has for a number of years served as Moderator of the school district, taking an interest in his work. In politics he is in full accord with the Democratic party, and is a recognized supporter of the same. He is one of the representative pioneers of the county and a self-made man, and is regarded by those who know him as a truly worthy and loyal citizen, and with his family is respected throughout the community.

EROSS HITCHCOCK, a young man of more than ordinary ability, is not only one of the educators of Johnson County, being a teacher in the public schools of Sterling, but he is also identified with its agricultural interests. He is a son of Col. Nicholas F. Hitchcock, a banker of Sterling, and one of its leading business men, a sketch of whose life will be found on another page of this volume.

Our subject was born in Perry County, Ohio, Jan. 6, 1863, and his boyhood was passed amid the pleasant scenes of his birthplace. He received an excellent, practical education in the public schools of his native State. In the early part of 1881 he came to Nebraska with his parents, who settled in Sterling, and in that year he began to utilize his "book learning" by entering the ranks as teacher at the age of nineteen years. Both by education and temperament he is peculiarly adapted to this profession, and he has met with gratifying success in its pursuit. He taught for some time in the schools

of this vicinity during the winter terms, alternating that vocation in the summer months with agriculture. In the winter of 1884-85 he was first enrolled among the instructors of Sterling, and has ever since been a teacher here, still continuing to farm in the summer. He is progressive and scholarly, and keeps well abreast of the times in regard to the most approved methods of imparting instruction, and occupies an assured position among the educators of Johnson County.

Mr. Hitchcock was married, March 30, 1884, to Miss Hattie L., daughter of William and Jane Kneeland. She is the only surviving child of her parents, and was the first child born in the city of Sterling, her birth occurring here May 20, 1867. Of her marriage with our subject one son has been born, Willie F. The cozy home of Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock is the center of refinement and true culture, and its genial and courteous host and hostess make it attractive to a large circle of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and they nobly second every effort of their fellow-members to elevate the moral status of the community in which they live. Mr. Hitchcock, like his father and brothers, is a firm supporter of the principles promulgated by the Republican party.

ANN E. (ALLISON) WATSON and her late husband, John J. Watson, were among the early pioneers of Johnson County, and were active in the development of her agricultural resources, and in otherwise promoting her growth. To people of their sterling worth and strong integrity of character the county is greatly indebted for the high moral tone that pervades its society. Mrs. Watson is now living in the seclusion of one of the coziest and most comfortable homes to be found in the pleasant town of Sterling, where she is deservedly held in the highest respect and esteem. The death of her husband, which occurred on the homestead, Oct. 8, 1882, at the age of fifty-four years, was a severe blow to the interests of the community, of which he had so long been a valued member. He was but little past the prime of life,

and in the midst of a busy and useful career, which it was hoped might be continued for many years. But a kind and wise Providence ruled it otherwise, and he was taken away before the decrepitudes of old age had rendered life a burden, leaving behind him in the hearts of many warm friends the memory of a true and upright man, who was beloved by all for his tender heart and many generous benefactions. His character was unblemished, and in his public life, for he took an active part in the administration of civic affairs, he was always devoted to his duty, and was never known to swerve from the straightforward path of honesty and rectitude.

Mrs. Watson, our subject, was born in Frederick County, Va., to Simpson and Maria (Mills) Allison. When she was about seven years old her mother removed to Wheeling, W. Va., her father having died one year before, leaving a widow and four children, namely: Andrew J.; James A., who died at Wheeling, aged eighteen years; Ann E. and John M. The latter was blind, and was educated in Staunton, Va. The mother of our subject died in Wheeling, Aug. 29, 1853, aged forty-six years. The daughter of whom we write was carefully reared to womanhood by that excellent parent, and trained in all the household duties that go to make an accomplished housewife. She was united in marriage to John J. Watson April 23, 1848, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. William Armstrong. In 1856 she and her husband emigrated to Southern Kansas, but after a stay there of about three months, on account of drouth and sickness they left for Iowa, where they lived for about a year. In 1857 they came to Johnson County, Neb., which they proposed to make their future home, and they bought a tract of 160 acres of land from the United States, at \$1.25 an acre, and later bought the 5-acre plot on which they had put their buildings, supposing it to be included in their purchase, but finding afterward that it was just across the line. This land was finely located about a mile northwest of Sterling, and there they improved a fine farm, on which they lived until Mr. Watson's death. Mrs. Watson bought her home in the town, and moved into it the next March. She and her husband had no children, but in the kindness of their hearts they

adopted a son, William C. Watson, whom they reared as tenderly as if he were indeed their very own. He was united in marriage to Miss Matilda Krantz in August, 1887.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. Watson was a strong Democrat he was appointed, during President Lincoln's administration, Postmaster of La Trobe post-office, which was established on his home farm, and was the first in this part of the county. He discharged the duties of that position with characteristic fidelity, and to the perfect satisfaction of his fellow-citizens, until his death. He was the founder of a star route from Nebraska City to "Nursery Hill," now within a mile of Syracuse, Neb., and he was Road Supervisor several years prior to his decease. Mr. Watson was a veteran of the Mexican War, in which he did gallant service for about two years, when he was honorably discharged on account of ill-health. He was an exemplary Christian in his daily conduct, although not a member of any church.

Mrs. Watson is a valued member of the Presbyterian Church, and also of the society Home of the Friendless. "Verily her works do praise her," and her good deeds are silent witnesses of a noble life.

JAMES M. THOMPSON, one of the early settlers of Johnson County, and one of its representative men, is the owner of an exceptionally fine farm comprising the whole of the northwest quarter of section 18 of Todd Creek Precinct. In 1886 he retired from the active operation of his farm, and is now engaged in attending the office of the Jennings Lumber Yard, and being a Justice of the Peace, holds his office at the same place.

Mr. Thompson first saw Nebraska in the year 1865, when he came prospecting, and in those journeyings traversed almost the entire State. On the 9th of May, 1866, he crossed the river at Brownville with his family and stock, using for the purpose one of the flatboats commonly in use. They had left their home in Knox County, Ill., on the 18th of April, and did not arrive at his farm on Elk Creek until the 12th of the following month.

His farm when first taken up was barren of everything but the native prairie grass, and entirely uncultivated, but before very long its appearance was vastly changed for the better, and it is now one of the finest farms in the county.

In first locating upon his homestead Mr. Thompson built a log house, which served him until 1874, when he erected a very handsome frame dwelling. He has also put out fully eight acres of forest trees, has planted two good and extensive orchards, and also a peach orchard of 1,000 trees. The farm by way of fencing has a well-kept, thick hedge, which presents a very picturesque appearance and answers the purpose perfectly. His various buildings and other improvements are in keeping with such as would be found upon a model farm, where both the knowledge and the means are at hand to obtain a well-nigh perfect result. Most certainly our subject has the knowledge, ability and energy, and has effected his purpose. He has chiefly been engaged in the raising of swine, cattle and horses, and in these employments made a large financial success.

The subject of our sketch has been a Justice of the Peace for twelve years, and for fifteen consecutive terms was Judge of Elections. For many years he continued to hold the office of Moderator of the school district. His religious convictions have led him to the membership of the Christian Church, with which Mrs. Thompson is also affiliated. In that communion our subject has for many years held the office of Deacon. He is also a member of the G. A. R., and Chaplain of the local post. He is held in very high regard by his neighbors, is a man of character, and honest and worthy, and it is not forgotten that he did whatever was in his power in the earlier days of settlement in the district, in order to advance its interests and bring it to its present enviable condition.

The subject of our sketch was born in Brown County, Ohio, on the 28th of May, 1818, and resided there until 1831. His parents saw to it that he received a good practical English education, and afterward he was fully instructed in both the practice and theory of agricultural pursuits. He started life for himself, and went to farming in his native county. There he met the lady of his choice, Miss

Belinda Schoonover, to whom he was united in wedlock on the 21th of January, 1843. To them have been given nine children, of whom five are still living. Their names are as here appended: Elijah C., Frances M., Belinda J., James M., Jr., and Douglas E. Those deceased are as follows: Mary E., Tobiatha A., Emma E. and Belle.

Leaving Ohio in 1851 our subject went to Knox County, Ill., where he continued farming until 1861. On the 16th of November of that year he enlisted in Company G, of the 58th Illinois Infantry, and served in the Cumberland campaigns. He saw much service, and shortly after the fight at Ft. Donelson was taken sick and taken to the hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he remained until August of 1863, and on the 3d day of that month received his discharge. Upon leaving the hospital our subject received an honorable discharge, owing to disability, and thereupon returned to Illinois, where he shortly after sold out his interest, and came to this State, as mentioned above.

The wife of our subject was born in Randolph County, W. Va., in 1824, and there lived until she was about eight years old. At that time her parents migrated to Ohio, which became her home until her marriage, as above mentioned. The tie has not yet been severed, and as the years have succeeded each other they have but told the same story of faithfulness and devotion in her wifehood. She has been a true helpmate to her husband, and devoted mother to their children. She is the daughter of Ebenezer and Sarah (Reck) Schoonover. Her father was a native of West Virginia, where he followed the occupation of a farmer, and died in the year 1842, leaving his widow and five small children. These later removed to Ohio, where Mrs. Schoonover lived until our subject came to this State, when she accompanied the family, and died in 1883, being then ninety-two years of age.

Of the children of our subject the eldest son is the husband of Emma E. Nicholson, of this precinct, and follows the occupation of farming, and is also a preacher of the Christian Church. Three children call him father, whose names are as follows: Hattie M., Albert and Wilfred. Francis M., who also lives in this precinct, was united in wedlock

with Miss Mary A. Libby; they also have three little ones, viz: Jessie May, Della and Clarence. Belinda is the wife of George W. Knowles, of this precinct, and they have six children, viz: Rodgers, Effa, Harry, Grace, Earrele and Clinton B.; Douglas E. married Miss N. Merwin, and two children brighten their home; James M. is unmarried and lives at home.

Charles Thompson, the father of our subject, was born in Ireland, near Dublin, and emigrated to America. While quite a young man he located in Pennsylvania, and followed his chosen occupation of stonemason. There he met and subsequently married Miss Margaret Kerr, of Pennsylvania. Their family included nine children, six of whom attained their majority. In the year 1809, accompanied by his family, he moved to Brown County, Ohio, where he took a tract of heavily timbered land, and cleared for himself a farm. In this work every member of the family assisted, for all found something to do. After improving this farm Mr. Thompson continued to make it his home until 1864. He then sold it and moved to Knox County, Mo., where he took up another farming property, continuing to reside upon it until his death, which occurred in October, 1865, he being then eighty-nine years of age. His wife, who was eighty-two years of age at the time of her demise, departed this life in February of the same year. He was for many years a devout member of the New Light (Christian) Church, and sustained the highest possible character in all his relations in life.



NATHAN D. PIERCE, a well-known and honored citizen of Sterling, is identified with the agricultural interests of Johnson County, owning, as he does, one of the finest farms in this part of Nebraska, which is delightfully located one and one-fourth miles from Adams. Mr. Pierce is a native of St. Lawrence County, N. Y., his birth taking place amid the beautiful scenes of that part of the country, Sept 23, 1837, and there the early years of his boyhood were passed. When he was a child his parents, Daniel and Wealthy

(Wheelock) Pierce, removed with their family to Geneva, Wis., where he grew to manhood, carefully trained in all that goes to make a true man and a good citizen. His parents subsequently settled in Waupun, Wis., where they both died the same week, in August, 1882. Thus they who were so devoted to each other in life in death were not long divided. In 1860 our subject went to Fox Lake, and was there engaged in the general merchandise business until the following year, when the war broke out, and as a true-hearted and loyal American he put aside his business, and all thoughts of the success that seemed assured, to join his brave comrades, and go forth with them to battle in his country's defense. He enlisted in Company A, 2d Wisconsin Infantry, and for two years was a faithful and efficient soldier in many a hard-fought contest. But the terrible sufferings and hardships of such a life told on his constitution, and although not wounded his health was broken down, and he was honorably discharged in the fall of 1862, and in his old home slowly regained strength and vigor under the loving care of his friends.

The next important step in the life of our subject was his marriage, July 18, 1863, to Miss Oravilla V. Kingsbury. She is a daughter of Ephraim and Rosina S. (Thayer) Kingsbury, who now reside in Pawnee City, Neb. Her father was formerly a heavy lumber dealer in Newport, Wis., where they were living at the time of our subject's marriage. He is now an extensive stock dealer. Three sons complete the pleasant household of Mr. and Mrs. Pierce, as follows: William H., a bright, manly youth who entered the navy at Chicago, Aug. 1, 1888; and Frank and Fred, who live at home, and have not yet completed their education, but are still in school.

In 1866 Mr. Pierce, who had not yet fully recovered his health which was so impaired by his army experiences, decided to take a trip in a buggy from Kilbourn City, Wis., across the country to Nebraska, a distance of 700 miles, and try the effects of this salubrious climate, and if he liked it, make his future home here. He and his wife made the journey as contemplated, and derived from it much pleasure, his health also being highly benefited. They settled in Pawnee City, where Mr. Pierce was

engaged in farming most of the time. In the year 1882 he came to Sterling, and bought a farm of eighty acres eight miles north of the city, to which he removed his family. But about three years ago he came into the city with them to make his home here, where he owns a commodious house in which they live very comfortably, and which they render attractive to friend and stranger by the genial and whole-souled hospitality extended to "welcome the coming and speed the parting guest." Mr. Pierce's farm in Adams, which he purchased in 1888, is finely improved, is well supplied with good buildings, and has an abundance of fruit trees, and all that goes to the making of a first-class farm.

Mr. Pierce is in every respect a thoroughly good citizen and a fine man, and his neighbors speak of him in the highest terms. He and his estimable wife occupy a high position in social and religious circles. They are valued members of the Baptist Church, and zealously use their influence to promote every work for the good of the community. Mr. Pierce is one of the leading members of the G. A. R., Sill Post No. 99, and also of the F. & A. M., Bethlehem Chapter No. 20; is Chaplain of both organizations, and has attained the Royal Arch degree in the lodge at Pawnee City. He is not an office-seeker, preferring the peace and quiet of his pleasant fireside to the bustle of public life, but he has been a member of the City Council, taking that office at the earnest solicitation of his friends, who had no difficulty in electing a man of his well-known ability and integrity. In his political sentiments he is with the Republicans, although he favors the principles of the Prohibition party.

F A. HARRIS is one of the foremost business men of the prosperous and lively city of Sterling, who are taking an active part in building up its commercial interests, as he is a prominent grain dealer here, carrying on an extensive and profitable trade. He is a native of England, his birth taking place in that country Jan. 5, 1824. His parents, William and Sarah (Cornfort) Harris, died when he was quite young, leaving him dependent upon his own exertions for a

livelihood. Our subject was, however, well endowed with muscle and brain, a stout heart and willing hands, and at the age of seventeen he came to the United States to seek work, with the hope that he might gain a more comfortable home in return for his labors than he could in his native land. He located in Maine, and soon obtained work in the town of Cooper of a farmer at \$8 a month, taking his payment in trade instead of money. He worked thus for about three years, and also was employed in the lumber regions near Holton, Me. In that town he met, and at the end of that time married Jane Montgomery, a native of Scotland, as were her parents, with whom she had come to America when a child. They located in the Province of New Brunswick, but they spent their last years in Rochester, N. Y., with their daughter, Mrs. Harris.

After marriage Mr. Harris and his wife had gone to that city, and with his wife's money he established himself in the general merchandise business, which he carried on there quite successfully for several years. But he was ambitious to try life in the West, and in 1859 he moved with his family to Iroquois County, Ill., and there turned his attention to farming. He resided there until 1879, engaged the while in agricultural pursuits, and in that year made another move still further west, and shortly after we find him established in Sterling as a grain dealer, which business he has since followed with marked success, as he has built up a large and exceedingly paying trade, and is regarded as one of the solid men of the city.

In August, 1875, our subject and his family met with a sore bereavement in the death of the beloved wife and mother. She was an earnest member of the Methodist Episcopal Church; a woman of true Christian worth, whose many amiable qualities endeared her to many beyond the household circle, where the thought of her is a sacred memory. Of her pleasant married life six children were born, of whom the following is recorded: William lives in Portland, Ore.; Francis lives here; Agnes, Mrs. Bernard Hotchkiss, died in Atwood, Kan.; Jennie is now Mrs. Dr. Helms, of Burchard, Neb.; John lives near Sterling; Oliver lives in the city.

Mr. Harris has taken a prominent part in local

and county affairs, his wisdom and experience being highly appreciated by his fellow-citizens, and he has been a member of the City Council of Sterling and Chairman of various county and precinct committees at different times. He is a firm supporter of the policy of the Democratic party, being much opposed to the tariff. He came to the United States during the campaign in which Polk was elected to the Presidency, and he was very much interested in the novel methods of electioneering in this country, whose institutions were so different from those of his native England. Mr. Harris is a thorough business man, prompt and systematic in his methods, and conscientious and upright in his dealings. He is influential in promoting schemes for the advancement of the city, and is held in deservedly high respect. He has one of the most imposing residences in the city, to which he retires from the cares of business, and where he often pleasantly entertains his friends.

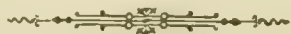
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**J**OHN J. OLMSTED, a citizen of prominence and good standing in Vesta Precinct, came to this county in February, 1879, and settled on the land which he still owns and occupies. For nine months he kept bachelor's hall, and then took a family into his house, with whom he lived until his marriage to Miss Jennie L. Jones, Aug. 13, 1882. He has since given his undivided attention to the building up of a homestead and the development of his land, and is numbered among the well-to-do and enterprising men of the north-eastern part of the county. He has good buildings, with an abundance of fruit and shade trees, and all the other surroundings which form the complete rural home. His farm comprises 160 acres on section 19, and, in addition to general agriculture, he raises graded stock, having a fine assortment of cattle.

Our subject was born near Maquon, in Knox County, Ill., Oct. 13, 1854, and is the son of Thaddeus and Elizabeth (Jones) Olmsted, the former a native of Franklin County, Ohio. They left the Buckeye State and settled in Knox County, Ill., during its pioneer days, where the father carried

on farming. The parental household included five children, of whom John J. was the second born. The others were Louisa, Theodore, Belle and Amos. All are living. Louisa took kindly to her books, and before her marriage was employed as a teacher. She is now the wife of Rufus Howe, of Western Precinct. Theodore is a practicing physician, residing at Lincoln.

Our subject spent his boyhood and youth on the farm in his native county which his father built up from the uncultivated prairie, and there became familiar with the various employments of rural life. His education was conducted in the district school, and he was taught at home those habits of industry which have been the secret of his success in life. After his marriage he carried on the improvement of his property uninterruptedly, and has been remarkably successful, at the same time pursuing that course, both in business and social circles, by which he has gathered around him many friends. He is at present the Treasurer of School District No. 53, and, with his estimable wife, is a member in good standing of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, attending services at Rose Hill school-house. To Mr. and Mrs. Olmsted have been born three sons—Walter, Warren J. and Amos.



**W**ILLIAM HINWOOD LIBBY. Among the worthy pioneer settlers of Johnson County is the subject of our sketch, who is also one of the representative farmers of to-day. He is the owner of a very fine property, comprising 120 acres lying on section 30, township 4, range 12, of Todd Creek Precinct; also about 110 acres of excellent bottom land on section 25, township 4, range 11. He first came to the State in December, 1865, and was on a prospecting tour, being anxious to take a homestead in the most favorable locality he could find. He decided upon a claim of 160 acres on section 21, township 4, range 11, and then returned to his home in Indiana, where he staid the winter, and early in the following year settled upon the claim.

Naturally when our subject located on his new homestead everything was before him yet to be

accomplished. Not a furrow was turned, not an improvement made. He began to cultivate his land hopefully, carefully and diligently. He put out a hedge around the land of natural timber, a large number of forest trees, covering perhaps eight acres; also a fine apple orchard and fully four acres of peach trees. From the latter there have been taken as many as 1,500 bushels in one year, but many of the trees are now dying out. In his field he devoted himself chiefly to grain farming. Among other improvements, first in order and importance was the erection of a dwelling, which was a commodious and pleasantly arranged farmhouse.

In 1879 our subject sold his property and bought his present farm, which was partially improved, and now presents a far different appearance. The house, stables and other farm buildings are better than many found upon other properties that would apparently warrant the expectation of almost a model farm and surroundings. Here, as before, he gave careful attention to the details of his farm, and did not overlook the forest trees about the house, orchards including cherry, plum, pear and apricot trees, vinery and such pleasant and profitable departments, and building good fences, including one mile of hedge. He has about 2,000 forest trees upon the place, and twenty acres of natural timber. Since coming to his present farm Mr. Libby has given no little attention to stock raising and feeding, and is the owner of some very fine horses, and large herds of swine and graded cattle. He also at one time dealt quite extensively in cattle, shipping many carloads, and driving as many as 500 head in a year. He is certainly one of the most successful farmers in the precinct, and in connection with his cattle dealing is known throughout the State and even beyond its borders.

Mr. Libby has been a man of business, and has not given an absorbing attention to matters of political import. He, however, is a good and true citizen, and usually votes with the Republican party. He is very favorably known in both the fraternity of the K. of P. and the G. A. R.

The subject of our sketch is by birth a Canadian, and was born in Oxford County, Canada West, on the 18th of November, 1841, living there with his parents until he was about thirteen years of age.



Then, with them, he went to Porter County, Ind. They settled near Valparaiso. His education was received in the home schools, but completed in Indiana. After leaving school his mind was directed to the more serious engagements of daily life, and he engaged in farm pursuits.

In 1862 our subject enlisted, on the 5th of July, in Company I, 73d Indiana Infantry, which became attached to the Army of the Cumberland, and he served through the western campaigns. During that time he took part in many battles, among them the following: Perryville, Stone River, Nashville, Franklin, Day's Gap, Crooked Creek, Blunt's Farm, Ala., and Pulaski, Tenn. Strange as it may seem, he passed through military life without a serious wound, and the more so because at the fearful battle at Stone River his company went into the battle fifty strong, and when the memorable engagement was over less than half that number answered the roll call. At Rome, Ga., in 1863, while under Col. A. D. Straight, he was taken prisoner and carried to Belle Isle, where he was held for forty days, suffering greatly and witnessing much distress on the part of his comrades. He received an honorable discharge on the 2d of July, 1865, then returned to Indiana, leaving shortly afterward for the West upon the above-mentioned prospecting journey.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah Murray was celebrated March 13, 1869, which union has been fruitful in the birth of three children, two of whom, viz., George E. and Edie, are still living. Miss Murray was born in Vermont, at Hinesburg, on the 4th of August, 1844. While she was still quite a child her parents removed to Boston, and later to Lowell; another removal took them to Lawrence. When she was ten years of age her parents migrated from the old Bay State to Vermont, and thence to Indiana, and settled in Porter County, residing there until 1866, when they went to Missouri, which has since continued to be their home.

Mrs. Libby is the daughter of Calvin and Caroline (Moody) Murray. Her father was a native of the Green Mountain State, and followed the occupation of a machinist, which partly accounts for the number of removals mentioned above. But he

took up farming upon coming West, and still owns a fine farming property in Atchison County, Mo. He is seventy-nine years of age. His wife, who is a native of Vermont, has reached the advanced age of seventy years.

William Libby, the grandfather of our subject, was an Englishman. He, however, emigrated to Canada, and enjoyed quite a reputation as a machinist, which was his chosen occupation. His son William, the father of our subject, was born at Falmouth, a seaport in the South of England, and came to this country when about twenty-two years of age. He became the husband of Miss Wealthy Townsend, near London, Canada, about 1824, and they became the parents of nine children, eight of whom lived to mature years, our subject being the sixth child. His death occurred at Quebec, in August of 1855, while on his way to England. His widow is now living in Todd Creek Precinct, having taken a homestead there. She is a native of Connecticut, and in her girlhood received the best education then obtainable. She has now attained the advanced age of eighty years, but is still in the enjoyment of comparatively good health. She is very highly esteemed by all who know her, and is held in highest regard.

**LEWIS E. OST.** Among the enterprising and progressive young men who stand in the front ranks of Johnson County, is the subject of our sketch. He comes of an Eastern family, having been born in the State of Massachusetts. He was reared and educated at Shelburne Falls.

Mr. Ost is the son of Elias G. and Kate Ost, who were natives of Germany. His birth occurred at Shelburne Falls, Sept. 14, 1861, and even in his early days he gave proof of the powers he has since more clearly manifested and so clearly utilized. When about eighteen years of age our subject was engaged as agent and operator at the Hoosac Tunnel station on the Fitchburg Railroad, and there continued until 1880.

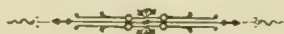
Mr. Ost came to Johnson County in 1881, and located at Elk Creek, but, after remaining there a



short time removed to Smartville, and engaged in grain and stock dealing, in which he continued until 1886, when he began farming, in which he was engaged until the fall of 1888, when he resumed his former business as agent, on the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, near Bellwood, Neb. From the first he has been prosperous as a business man, and was no less so as an agriculturist.

In 1884 our subject celebrated the Fourth of July by upon that day being wedded to Miss Mary Mook, the estimable daughter of David and Lucinda M. Mook, of Smartville. She was born near Rochester, N. Y., in 1865. Her parents attended to it that she received a good education, and she resided with them until her marriage. Of this union there have been born three children, whose names are as follows: Percy, Mabel and Carl D.

For two years Mr. Ost served with every satisfaction as School Treasurer, and has held other offices. He was a member of the committee of the Republican party in the precinct, and an active worker in connection therewith. Both he and his wife are members of the Universalist Church at Tecumseh, and in it are held in much esteem. In society at large they occupy a prominent position, and at all times are well received. Both as a man of business and a citizen our subject is respected by his fellows, and enjoys a reputation that is irreproachable.



**C**HARLES W. POOL. The firm of Pool & Cooper are well known as the enterprising publishers and proprietors of the *Johnson County Journal*, located at Tecumseh. Mr. Pool, besides being interested in city matters, has a fine tract of land in Western Precinct, embracing 160 acres, and which is devoted mainly to stock-raising. Besides the property above mentioned, Mr. Pool owns eighty acres in Center Precinct, and the Commercial Hotel at Crab Orchard. He and his wife are owners of city property in Tecumseh, aside from the interest of Mr. Pool in the business of the *Journal*.

The father of the subject of this sketch was born in the city of Columbus, Ohio, and when a little lad four years of age went with his parents to Mar-

shall County, Ill. They settled in the pioneer days near what afterward became the town of Henry, where the father operated as a tiller of the soil until about 1836. He then crossed the Mississippi into Grundy County, Iowa, and finally, in October, 1865, made his way to Nebraska, locating in Pawnee City, where his death took place in June, 1867. The mother, Mrs. Ann (Shinn) Pool, was a native of Virginia, and at the time of her marriage a resident of Fulton County, Ill. The household circle was completed by the birth of seven children, and, with the exception of one girl, who died at the age of sixteen years, all lived to maturity. The survivors are residents of Nebraska and Kansas. Mrs. Pool, fourteen years after the death of her first husband, became the wife of Mr. David Sheppard, and is now a resident of Kansas.

The father of our subject was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and in his later years a supporter of the Republican party. The paternal grandfather, Simeon Pool, was of New England ancestry, and during the later years of his life carried on merchandising in Henry, Ill., where he accumulated a competence, and spent his declining days in ease and retirement. His death took place in the fall of 1863, when he was a very old man.

Charles W. Pool, our subject, was born Nov. 20, 1856, near Kewanee, Henry Co., Ill. He was seven years of age when his parents removed to Iowa. He came with them to this State, and completed his education in the schools of Pawnee City. He commenced his business career as clerk in a store of general merchandise, and began learning the printer's trade in the office of the *Hennepin (Ill.) Record*. He remained there three years, then located in Peotone, and established the *Eagle*. Six months later he returned to his old haunts in Hennepin, and the year following crossed the Mississippi.

This was in the fall of 1878. Mr. Pool purchased the *Sterling News*, of Johnson County, but three months later changed the scene of his operations to Tecumseh, and in company with Mr. Barnhart, established the *Johnson County Journal*, with which he has since been successfully connected. He purchased the interest of his first partner in February, 1881, and conducted the paper alone until March,

1887, when he became associated with Mr. H. L. Cooper. Both are men of enterprise, and the *Journal* is having a decided influence in the county, as the leading Democratic paper.

Mr. Pool's home is presided over by a very estimable lady, Mrs. Frank L. (Foster) Pool, to whom he was married in Tecumseh, April 25, 1883. Mrs. Pool was born in Greencastle, Putnam Co., Ind., April 1, 1857, and is the daughter of William L. Foster, a millwright by trade. From Indiana they came to this county, in June of 1880, and are now residents of Tecumseh. Mrs. Pool was Deputy County Clerk of Benton County, Ind., for a period of four years.

Mrs. Pool received a good education, and taught a district school in Indiana, while at the same time giving instruction in music. She has distinguished herself as a very capable and enterprising lady, and after coming to Tecumseh established a millinery store, which she conducted until her marriage. The maiden name of her mother was Addie Chittenden, and the parental household included three daughters, who are all living.

**C**HARLES M. WILSON, Postmaster of Tecumseh, was appointed to this office by President Cleveland in April, 1886. Since that time he has served satisfactorily, conducting the office with good judgment and economy, and by his courteous treatment of all who have dealings with him, has gained in a marked degree their friendship and esteem. The post-office at this point is ranked in the third class, and accordingly commands a salary. It is the largest post-office in the county, the gross receipts being upward of \$4,000 annually, and having domestic and foreign money order departments.

The subject of this biography was born in Delaware County, N. Y., Dec. 7, 1850. After emerging from the common schools he became a student of the Delaware Literary Institute at Franklin, N. Y., and subsequently occupied himself as a teacher. Upon leaving his native State he located in Jersey County, Ill., where he taught from the fall of 1876 until the spring of 1879, then, crossing the Missis-

sippi, took up his residence in Tecumseh, and was given the management of the business of the Chicago Lumber Company, with which he was connected until his appointment to his present position.

It is hardly necessary to say that Mr. Wilson is a member of the Democratic party. He has been prominent in local affairs during nearly the whole time of his residence in this county, officiating as a member and President of the School Board, and as an Alderman in the City Council. Before Tecumseh was transformed from a village into a city Mr. Wilson officiated as Town Clerk.

The wedded life of our subject began on the 14th of February, 1883, when he was married to Miss Dora Hunsberger. Mrs. Wilson was born in the city of Washington, D. C., Dec. 29, 1857. Her father dying when she was an infant of six weeks, the mother removed to Ogle County, Ill., and passed away when her daughter was a little girl of seven years. She was then taken into the home of her maternal grandmother, where she remained until her marriage. In the meantime she had been given a good education, especially in music, completing her studies in connection with this art at Highland Park Institute, from which she was graduated in 1877. She was afterward a teacher of music until her marriage. This she prosecuted with fine success, and enjoyed an enviable reputation as a performer on the piano and a singer. To Mr. and Mrs. Wilson there have been born three children: Margaret L., Helen H. and Mary P., all of whom are living.

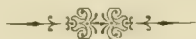
The home of the Wilsons is situated in the northern part of the city, and in its surroundings indicates culture and ample means. Our subject, socially, belongs to the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a prominent member, and has represented his lodge in the sessions of the Grand Lodge many different times. He is also Past Chancellor.

Robert F. Wilson, the father of our subject, was born in Delaware County, N. Y., where he carried on farming, and dealt largely in live stock for many years. He finally retired from active labor, and took up his residence in Cohoes, where his death occurred July 5, 1883, at the age of sixty-five years.

The mother was in her girlhood Miss Polly A.



Powell, a native of the same county as her husband, and they became the parents of six children, all of whom lived to mature years. She died while comparatively a young woman, in October, 1866, aged about forty-three years. Both parents were members of the Baptist Church. John Powell, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in 1800, carried on farming the greater part of his life in Delaware County, and is still living, being hale and hearty, and now eighty-eight years old. His aged partner passed away three or four years since. John Wilson, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was of Scotch ancestry, and born in the North of Ireland. He crossed the Atlantic when a young man, engaged in farming during the greater part of his life, and in his declining years took up his residence with his son in Akron, Ohio, where he passed away about 1858, at the advanced age of ninety.



**C** F. A. BIESEMEIER is classed among the well-to-do, enterprising farmers of Johnson County, who have taken a prominent part in developing its agricultural interests, and are among the most active in sustaining them. He has met with more than ordinary success in his chosen calling, as is attested by his large, well-improved farm in Sterling Precinct. He also has a further claim to distinction as a fine representative of the brave citizen-soldier, who, before attempting the pioneer task of evolving a farm from the wild Western prairies of the country, helped to put down the Rebellion that threatened her institutions.

The subject of this sketch was born in Germany, April 11, 1842, and in 1849 he came to the United States with his parents, F. A. and Elizabeth (Winter) Biesemeier. They located in Warren County, Mo., where the father died of cholera in 1851. The mother died in LaFayette County, Mo., in 1881. He of whom we write was the third of the seven children born to his parents, and he grew to manhood in Missouri, where we find him living at the breaking out of the war. In October, 1861, when but nineteen years of age, he enlisted in Company D, 5th Iowa Cavalry, and with all the ardor and patriotism of a native-born citizen, went forth to

fight the battles of his adopted country. He served faithfully and efficiently until the close of the war, and took an active part in many heavy engagements. He was at Pulaski Gap, where his brother Christian fell mortally wounded by a shot through the liver, and died twenty-four days later. The company in which was our subject, followed the rebel General, Hood, to the Tennessee River, and then returned to Howard's Station, where they were badly whipped in the forenoon, but in the afternoon the tables were turned, and our subject and his comrades had the satisfaction of repaying the enemy in full coin. During that battle Mr. Biesemeier was fighting in a trench or washout, and was so absorbed in his occupation that he did not notice that his company, heavily pressed by the enemy, had suddenly been forced to retreat. When he discovered their absence he saw that his only safety lay in a hasty flight, and he promptly took to his heels, but finding that he was closely pursued by the enemy, he betook himself to a swamp of canebrakes, and hid until they had passed, when he crawled under a culvert and lay there until the rebels were again repulsed. He then rejoined the boys in blue on their return to the field, and helped to capture some prisoners. That battle lasted all day, and the Union soldiers pursued the Confederates for some days afterward. Our subject and his regiment were then ordered back to Murfreesboro, where they were recruited and despatched with Sherman on his march to the sea as far as Huntsville, Ala. From there they returned to the Cumberland River, and on the way they met a part of Hood's army at the Tallapoosa River, where their brigade was surrounded by the enemy, and at night cut its way out, and fell back to Franklin. From there our subject and his comrades were sent to take part in the second battle of Nashville. As they marched onto the battle-field, the Second Lieutenant of Company L, which was just ahead of our subject's company, was cut in two by a cannon ball, leaving the lower part of his body in the saddle. This ghastly sight checked the movement for a moment, but the men soon made a heavy charge on the enemy, but without much effect. This was the 22d of December, 1863, and darkness coming on, the soldiers lay in a ditch through the night. On

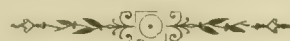


the afternoon of the next day they charged the rebel works and took them. On the eve of the 23d, after Hood had been badly whipped, the Union boys were crossing a field where they had been fighting, and in the darkness our subject and some of his comrades fell into a ditch onto an abandoned cannon of the enemy, causing a chill which they will never forget. At Pulaski, Tenn., Mr. Biesemeier's company took a prominent part in the heavy fight waged there, and took many prisoners, coming off victorious, although they had been hard pushed by the rebels in the forenoon. Thence they proceeded up the Tennessee River, but they subsequently marched back to Pulaski, and in March, 1864, our subject re-enlisted, taking a furlough of thirty-five days before reporting for service at Clinton, Iowa. His regiment was then actively engaged in a number of raids on Savannah, Ga., where they anticipated a fight, which, however, did not come off. They staid there until peace was declared, and our subject was honorably discharged, and returned to his old home in Missouri. While in the South he met with many hairbreadth escapes, and of one of these he relates that when encamped at Grand Springs, Miss., he was detailed to unload a boat of hay on the Tennessee River, and while in charge of those thus detailed, he attempted to get off a steamboat onto a flatboat, made a misstep and plunged into the water, it being very dark, and he came very near being drowned. He had been benumbed by the cold before he fell into the water, and the boys dragged him out more dead than alive, and had to work vigorously to resuscitate him, rolling him on a board to get the water out of his stomach. His clothes were frozen stiff, and the fall had rendered him unconscious.

Soon after returning home Mr. Biesemeier was united in marriage, Oct. 15, 1865, to Miss Justine Kufusz. The happy bride and bridegroom immediately left Missouri and came to Johnson County, Neb., where they had resolved to build up a home, and they commenced their wedded life on their present farm. It was then a wild tract of prairie land, comprising 160 acres on sections 5 and 8, Sterling Precinct, which Mr. Biesemeier took up under the provisions of the Homestead Act. There was then no house between here and the city, and our sub-

ject and his wife have witnessed the greater part of the development of Johnson County, besides being important factors in promoting its growth. When they came here they had but \$725 in money, but by their united exertions, wise economy, and shrewd management, have increased this many fold, and they now own one of the most valuable farms in the precinct. The farm now comprises 440 acres, which includes, besides the homestead (which is finely improved), 160 acres on the southeast quarter of section 31, township 6, range 9, and 120 acres on section 17, township 5, range 9. The farm is all fenced, is well watered, and stocked with cattle of good grades.

In the attractive home that they have thus built up eight children have been born to our subject and his wife, six of whom are living. The family are highly respected in this neighborhood, and they are much valued members of the German Lutheran Church. Mr. Biesemeier is well dowered with firmness, activity and enterprise, and his genuine kindness of heart has given him a warm place in the hearts of those who know him. In every department of life, as a husband, father, neighbor and citizen, he is the same upright, honest man, in whom all who know him place unlimited trust. He is an intelligent thinker, and has decided views on all subjects that come under his notice, particularly in regard to politics, he being an earnest Republican.



**D**UNCAN LIVINGSTON. Spring Creek Precinct numbers among its citizens numerous able and successful agriculturists, and among them, and by no means the least worthy of mention, is the subject of this notice, whose property, comprising 2,500 acres, is situated in Johnson, Otoe and Saunders Counties, Neb. That in Spring Creek is located on section 12, township 6 north, range 11 east. He was born in Argyleshire, Scotland, on the 14th of March, 1825, and is the son of Duncan and Barbara (McAllister) Livingston. He is the fourth son of the family, and the eldest now living. His education, received in his native country, is of the usual Scot-

tish careful, thorough nature, and enables him to hold a front place among the intelligent citizens.

Leaving his native country our subject emigrated to America in December, 1849, taking passage at Glasgow in the good ship "Warren," which landed him in January, 1850, at New York. The thought in his mind at the time was simply to make a more or less extended visit to these shores, but as it happened the visit was extended until it was decided to make it his home. In Scotland, when about seventeen years of age, he had begun to learn the trade of a blacksmith, and this he continued to follow here. From New York City he went to Norristown, Pa., and found work. After some time he went to Louisville, Ky., thence to New Albany, Ind., and was employed in the railroad shops. This continued until 1852, when, while in the employ of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago Railroad Company, he was promoted to be foreman of the forging department which position he held until 1862.

At the end of that period our subject went to Nashville, to take charge of the forging department of the shops of the Nashville & Chattanooga Railroad, which he held a little over two years; at that time the road was under the control of the United States Government. During that time he always had from 200 to 225 men at work under him, employed in the construction of locomotives, which were made especially for the Government. In such work he was considered an expert, and turned out from the works some of the best engines ever used by the Government.

The marriage of Mr. Livingston and Mary Butterfield was celebrated at New Albany, Ind., in April, 1854. His wife is a native of Yorkshire, England, and was born in September, 1835. She is the daughter of Henry and Susanna Butterfield, a well-known and much respected Yorkshire family. When she was about twelve years of age she accompanied her parents to the United States, they settling in New Albany, Ind. Her father operated a carding-mill for a number of years, after which he located on a farm in Washington County, that State. This was their home for the remainder of life. To our subject have been born eight children; the following are yet living: Sarah Ann, the wife of

Abijah Hubbard, of Otoe County, Neb.; Henry, living in Helena Precinct, of this county; Marion and Martha are at home. The deceased are as follows: Neil, Barbara, Susanna and Daniel.

While Superintendent at Nashville, and on the 22d of September, 1865, Mr. Livingston was presented by his men with a handsome gold watch and chain, suitably inscribed, a souvenir of the esteem in which he was held by them. This is still in the possession of the subject of this sketch, and is of course very greatly prized by him. April 7, 1866, while at Louisville, Ky., he was presented by the men in his employ with a very handsome silver medal, a token of their confidence and regard. This is not without its significance in these days of labor troubles and difficulties between man and master. He has been in the employ of several companies for twenty-five years, and never was in a strike during that time, and never asked for a raise of wages, but was advanced from fifty cents to \$5 per day.

In leaving the railroad shops in 1865 our subject went to Louisville, Ky., and started a new shop for his company for the manufacture of iron railroad bridges, then went to New Albany and engaged in mercantile business for two years. After having made a trip to Nebraska, looking over the country, he finally purchased a large quantity of land in this county, to which he brought his family in 1867. After living a short time in Otoe County, early in 1868 they took up their residence on their present farm, and have continued on the same continuously from that time.

Mr. Livingston owns 2,500 acres of land, 1,800 of which are in this county, the remainder in Otoe and Saunders Counties. It will be understood that the above-mentioned purchase included only wild land. He immediately set about the cultivation of the home farm, and has some 2,000 acres in a very high state of productiveness. In connection with his grain and general farming he is quite a successful raiser of cattle, and is now the owner of a number of very fine animals, and he believes that he has the largest steer in the United States; the animal is named Livingston's Nebraska Baby.

Mr. and Mrs. Livingston are active members and able supporters of the Presbyterian Church, and take a deep interest in things pertaining thereto. They



move in the elite circles of local society, and are greatly esteemed in the community. In civic and political affairs our subject is in strict accord with the principles of the Republican party, and usually votes its ticket. The aim of their lives seems to have been to leave the world better than they found it, and to follow strictly the excellent teaching of the chief commandment.

**JAMES A. LAWRENCE.** The subject of this sketch occupies a prominent position among the pioneer element of Johnson County, to which he came when a large portion of its territory lay untouched by the plowshare. He has watched the growth and development of one of the most prosperous States in the Union with that keen interest felt by every true-hearted citizen concerning a section of country which has become his adopted home. A native of the Empire State, Mr. Lawrence was born in Westport, Essex County, Nov. 29, 1842, and although his experiences have been many and varied, he is still far from being an aged man, and has yet many years before him to complete the sum of his usefulness as one of the most valued citizens of the county.

Our subject is of New England ancestry, his father, Wait Lawrence, having been born in Torrington, Conn., in 1798. The latter continued in his native State until a lad of fourteen years, then with his parents removed to Salisbury, Vt., and soon afterward enlisted as a drummer boy during the War of 1812. After this conflict had ended, he took up his residence in Essex County, N. Y., where his death took place in 1878, after he had reached his fourscore years. He was a farmer by occupation, accumulated some property, and was a leading member in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The mother of our subject, Mrs. Anna (Andrus) Lawrence, was born in Hancock, Vt., near the foot of the Green Mountains, and by her marriage with Wait Lawrence became the mother of nine children, three sons and six daughters, all of whom lived to mature years. Her father, William Andrus, was a farmer and shoemaker by occupation, and spent his last years in the Green Mountain State.

Mrs. Lawrence survived her husband until 1884, remaining a widow and passing her last days in the city of Troy, N. Y., at the home of her daughter.

The subject of this sketch received a good education considering the circumstances by which he was surrounded, and his limited attendance at school. At an early age he became acquainted with the various details of farm life, and was mostly occupied as a tiller of the soil until after the outbreak of the Civil War. On the 16th of September, 1861, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company A, 77th New York Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. He participated in twenty-three engagements with the enemy, and in the battle of Petersburg, Va., June 21, 1864, suffered the loss of one of his limbs above the knee. He was conveyed to Stanton Hospital in the city of Washington, D. C., where he was confined until November 24 following, when he was mustered out with his regiment, at the expiration of their time of enlistment, the 13th of December, 1864. Our subject, maimed for life, now returned to his old home in Essex County, N. Y., and thence removed in April of the following year to Washington County, Ohio. From 1865 to 1870 he was employed in a woolen factory at Lowell, Ohio. After a residence of nine years in the Buckeye State, he crossed the Mississippi, and homesteaded a tract of unimproved land in Dawson County, this State. Here he put out trees, battled with grasshoppers and drouth, and came off victorious, and in the spring of 1877 sold a finely improved farm for a snug sum of money. The latter he invested in land near the city of Tecumseh, this county. He is now the owner of one of the finest estates in Nemaha Precinct, including besides his farm property a handsome home on Clay street, besides lots and houses elsewhere in the city.

Mr. Lawrence has been prominent in local affairs, representing his ward in the City Council, serving on the Board of Education, and as Assessor of Nemaha Precinct for the last four years. As an ex-soldier he is a member in good standing and ex-Commander of Post No. 270, in the G. A. R., of Tecumseh. Socially, he belongs to the J. O. O. F., and religiously, is a member and Trustee of the Presbyterian Church. His business talents and his



high character as a member of the community have secured for him the good-will and friendship of his fellow-citizens, who speak of him in the highest terms.

One of the most important events in the life of our subject was his marriage with Miss Mary Marshall, which occurred April 1, 1866, in Lowell, Ohio. Of this union there were born three children, all of whom are living. Frank is engaged in mercantile pursuits at Falls City, this State; William is a printer by trade, and located in David City, and James is at home with his father. These boys have been given a good education, and are wide-awake and promising young men. Mrs. Mary (Marshall) Lawrence died while still a young woman, at her home in Dawson, Neb., in 1875.

Mr. Lawrence, on the 28th of October, 1876, contracted a second matrimonial alliance, with Miss Sarah Otis, at that time a resident of Lowell, Ohio. This lady was born in Marietta, that State, March 7, 1840, and is the daughter of Stephen and Sarah (Dyar) Otis, who have long since passed away. The father died about 1868, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, in Ohio; the mother died in this State. Of this union there has been born one child, a son, Harry G., Feb. 28, 1878.



**B**ENJAMIN F. DRAKE, who is one of the prosperous farmers of to-day, and also one of the early settlers and pioneers of the county, is the owner of 215 acres of well-improved and highly cultivated land on section 11 of Todd Creek Precinct. Our subject was born in Warren County, Ohio, on the 30th of December, 1836, and there made his home until 1859. In the schools of the district he received a practical English education, such as would be eminently useful in matters of everyday concern in life, although perhaps not so all-embracing as that of others, who, having time and opportunity, have sat in academic or collegiate halls.

Leaving school, Mr. Drake started to learn the trade of a cooper, and followed the same from the time he was sixteen until he was twenty-six years of age, then enlisted in the defense of the Union.

This was in September, 1863, and he joined the 16th Indiana Battalion of Light Artillery. He served in the Army of the Potomac, and was at the defense of Washington. After a service of nine months he was mustered out, in July, 1865, under a general order that dissolved the entire military organization.

Returning to his wife and family, who during the period of his service had been at LaFayette, Ind., Mr. Drake went to Louisville, Ky., and thence came to this State, and took up his farm. He now has six acres of fruit planted, and twenty-five acres of natural forest trees, that he has since purchased, and has his whole farm enclosed with hedge and wire fence. His home, which he built in 1880, is one of the pleasant farm dwellings in the county. His barns, cattle sheds, stables, etc., are also suitable in construction and adapted to his requirements. He owns large numbers of cattle, hogs and horses.

The subject of our sketch was married to Miss Lizzie Poyner, of Greenville, Darke Co., Ohio, on the 1st of April, 1863, and there have been born of the union three children, of whom one only is now living. Erol, who is now eighteen years of age. The wife of our subject was born in Middletown, Butler Co., Ohio, on the 25th of June, 1843, to Silas and Mary (Wade) Poyner. She continued to live with her parents, and was educated in the schools of her native place. Her father was born in North Carolina, but left the State on account of its slavery, with which he had no sympathy, and which was entirely opposed to his principles. His family numbered twelve children, whom it was his privilege to see making their way toward honorable and useful careers. He died in Ohio, in 1857, and was survived by his wife until 1867.

Abner Drake, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey, in December, 1803, but when two years of age was taken to Kentucky by his parents, who shortly afterward went to Cincinnati, and later to Warren County, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, and subsequently married Miss Densie Ingersoll, who presented him with two children, their daughter Emma and the subject of our sketch. By occupation Mr. Drake was a cooper, and continued working at his trade wherever he found the most profitable employment, which ac-





*F. A. Redfield*



counted for the numerous removals made by the family. After some years in Ohio he removed to Madison, Ind., and later to Memphis, where he was living at the time of his death, which occurred on the 5th of October, 1886, he being at the time eighty-three years of age. His wife had passed to her long home in the year 1839.

The grandfather of our subject, Benjamin F. Drake, was a native of New York, and removed from State to State as noticed above. He lived in Warren County, Ohio, from the time of his removal from Cincinnati until his death. He was by occupation a shoemaker, but linked therewith agriculture, in which he was quite successful. The maiden name of his wife, whom he met and married before leaving the East, was Miss Ury Smith. Their family included five children, whom it was their privilege to bring to mature years. His death occurred in 1844, when he had arrived at the advanced age of sixty-five years. He was survived by his wife until the year 1858.



**F**RANK A. REDFIELD. One of the most respected and popular citizens of Crab Orchard is the gentleman whose history is herein briefly recited. He is a native of the Empire State, and was born at Avon, Livingston County, Nov. 25, 1831. His father, Hiram Redfield, was a native of Vermont, but spent the greater part of his life in the State of New York. His death occurred in Fremont County, Iowa, in the year 1875.

The education of our subject was received in the common schools of his native county, supplemented by a course in Eastman's Commercial College, in Rochester, N. Y., from which institution he was graduated in the year 1855. The following year he went to Peoria County, Ill., and made his home in Elmwood, where he began farming, continuing therein with much prosperity until the outbreak of the war.

In response to the call to arms Mr. Redfield enlisted in Company I, 77th Illinois Infantry, for a period of three years. He was an enthusiastic patriot, and went forward to the execution of his duty inspired by his love for the Union and the "old

flag." He was present and participated in the battles of Vicksburg, Arkansas Post, Ft. Gibson, Champion Hills, and Black River Bridge—the three latter being fought within a few days of each other, in May, 1863. In the July following occurred the siege and capture of Jackson, Miss., in which he took part. He was present also at Spanish Fort, Mobile, and in a number of other engagements.

Upon receiving an honorable discharge our subject returned to Elmwood, and was employed as clerk in the store and post-office of that place, continuing until the spring of 1868, when he went to Hamburg, Iowa. In the fall of the same year he returned to Illinois, and after about one year went back to Iowa. In the spring of 1871 he came to this county, settling in Western Precinct, where he purchased a farm, carrying on the same until 1885, when he removed to Crab Orchard and engaged in mercantile pursuits. This he has continued from that time with an ever-increasing patronage born of the confidence of the community in him as a man and merchant. He carries a full line of groceries, boots and shoes, furnishing goods, notions, glassware, etc.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated at Knoxville, Ill., on the 4th of February, 1858, when he was joined in wedlock with Mary E. Aldrich, daughter of the late Jamin Aldrich, who died in Appanoose, Ill., Feb. 3, 1837. There have been born to them two children, viz: Lucien H., June 10, 1859, and William C., Dec. 30, 1860. The former is married to Alice M. Worley, and the latter is the husband of Mary E. Barrett. Both sons reside upon the farm, which comprises 320 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Redfield were members of the Congregational Church, but as that communion has no church in Crab Orchard they have united with the Methodist Episcopal Church. They move in the best society of the vicinity, and are everywhere most cordially accorded the heartiest respect and esteem. Their beautiful home is the center of an exceedingly pleasant social circle, and its rooms are not infrequently the scene of felicitous festivities. They are liberal supporters of the church with which they are affiliated, and of every enterprise of a charitable nature. Our subject is a staunch Republican, having affiliated with that party from

the first day of his citizenship. Socially, he is connected with the G. A. R., and is a member of the local post, and by reason of his war experience is an enthusiastic member of that organization of heroes and veterans.

A portrait of this well-known and highly respected merchant and brave veteran appears on an adjoining page.



GEORGE W. IDEN, a well-known and highly honored citizen of Johnson County, with whose agricultural interests he has been closely identified for nearly twenty years, is classed among the pioneers of Nebraska, although not one of its earliest settlers. He and his wife coming here immediately after their marriage to begin their wedded life here and establish a home, preceding the advent of railways and when there were no markets, towns, schools or churches, except in a few localities, have witnessed the great strides their adopted State has made in its almost unprecedented development. And not only that, they have borne an honorable part in promoting its growth, and their labors have been amply rewarded by one of the finest farms in Sterling Township, where they live in a pleasant, cozy home.

The grandparents of our subject, George and Matilda Iden, were natives of Virginia. They crossed the Alleghany range on their way West between the years 1812 and 1815, and settled in Carroll County, Ohio, of which they thus became pioneers. For fifty years after that event it was thought that they were the only family of the name west of the mountains, but more recently others of the name have been heard of who are doubtless distantly related. They bought land in the woods, and, not unlike thousands of others, began the labor of making a farm. It may have been fortunate for them that they were thus obliged to wrestle with stern nature for a livelihood, thus developing fortitude, hardihood and self-reliance; but not many of the young married people of today will ever know only by tradition the labor, patience and endurance required to successfully encounter the hardships and privations incident to

pioneer life in a timbered country. It was on that farm that those people lived and in the fullness of years finally died. It was there that they reared a large family of six boys and four girls. Washington Iden, their oldest son, was born on the old homestead in 1815. A few miles distant from his early home lived the family of Mr. and Mrs. Heston, also pioneers of like experience with his parents, and they reared a family of six boys and seven girls. In 1820 a daughter was born to them, whom they named Eliza. Washington Iden and Eliza Heston grew to manhood and womanhood in the same neighborhood, and after a courtship probably somewhat suited to those times, were married in 1837. These constituted the parents of our subject. Their first venture was to procure a 40-acre tract of land in the woods and to proceed at once to the arduous task of clearing it and making a home. They also were the parents of a large family, seven boys and four girls, nine of whom are still living, having been born of their union. It was on their farm in the primeval forests of Carroll County, Ohio, that their second son, of whom we write, was born on the 11th of October, 1840, and named by them George W. His parents continued to reside on their homestead in Ohio until 1864, when they migrated to Kosciusko County, Ind., where they now reside at an advanced age on a fine, well-improved farm, surrounded by all their surviving children, except George W. and Thomas J., who are citizens of Nebraska.

The boyhood days of our subject were passed on a farm, and though he is still in the prime of life and his native State has been settled for over half a century, yet when he was young it was still under the dominion of the pioneer, and he early learned to know what grubbing stumps, picking stone and brush, and rolling logs meant. He was an earnest, thoughtful lad, loving his books, and greatly desirous of obtaining an education. His opportunities were, however, limited to attending the public schools three months during the winters and a few months at an academy. Being of poor parents and ambitious of entering the professions, he taught school at the age of eighteen to gain the wherewithal to gratify his ambitions, teaching during the winters and working during the harvests



to procure means to enter college. His educational and professional schemes were sadly interfered with when the Confederate cannon were discharged at the Nation's banner on Ft. Sumter, and on the 4th of June, 1861, not then twenty-one years of age, under the first call for three-years troops, he marched into Camp Chase, Ohio, to offer his services to defend his country's honor, and it was not until after the 18th of June, 1866, that he was mustered out, making a continuous service of five years and fourteen days. During those trying days his valor, patriotism, fortitude and ability were proved in many a hard-fought battle, and he has a distinguished military record as a soldier, and later as an officer, receiving promotion not through the influence of others, but purely on account of his competence. He was a member of the 25th Ohio Infantry, and belonged to Company A until May, 1865, when he received a commission as Lieutenant and was assigned to Company E. During his long term of service he was always in good health, always with his regiment to the front, thus giving him an opportunity to participate in a score of hotly contested engagements, in which he was often slightly wounded but never wholly disabled. The 25th Ohio was ordered to West Virginia and endured much loss through exposure in many campaigns in that rough, mountainous country, taking an active part in the battles of Cheat Mountain, Greenbriar, Allegheny Summit, Monterey, Huntersville, McDowell and Cross Keys. It was then transferred to Pope's army and sustained a heavy loss in the unequal and disastrous battle of the second Bull Run. There our subject was made a prisoner, taken to Richmond, passed but one night in Libby Prison and but a few days on Belle Isle, was soon paroled, sooner exchanged, and ordered to his regiment, which he joined in the morning at Centreville, Va., where it had been encamped since the battle of Bull Run. Early the next morning Mr. Iden and his fellow-soldiers started on another expedition, and having been assigned to the Potomac Army, his regiment joined it at Fredericksburg one day after the defeat of Burnside in December, 1862. Our subject took part in the campaign and battle of Chancellorsville, under Gen. Howard, whose corps, the 11th, sustained the shock of the grand flank

movement of the Confederate chieftain, Gen. Jackson. The historical campaign and battle of Gettysburg soon followed, during the first day of which the division in which our subject marched, Gen. Barlow's, was almost destroyed, the colors of the 25th Ohio changing hands seven times. On the 5th of July, when his regiment was formed to go in pursuit of Gen. Lee, but sixty-eight were in the ranks, commanded by a Second Lieutenant. Mr. Iden was Orderly Sergeant of the regiment, an unusual position in military organizations. The next move and last transfer of our subject's company was to the department of South Carolina, where he took part in the siege of Ft. Wagner and all the operations in front of Charleston. Mr. Iden veteranized Jan. 1, 1864, and remained in the department just referred to until the close of the war, engaging in many raids and severe encounters with the enemy. He carried a rifle to the end of the struggle, and in May, 1865, was made a Lieutenant, and was soon assigned to duty in Columbia, S. C., by order of Gen. Sickles, as Provost Judge of what was called a "Superior Provost Court." This court was established for the settlement of many cases that needed early attention after the collapse of Confederate law and authority. Our subject was also for a short time ordnance officer on the staff of Gen. Ames, who afterward achieved notoriety as Governor of Mississippi during reconstruction days. The last duty to which Mr. Iden was assigned previous to being mustered out was that of Acting Assistant Adjutant General, under Brevet Brigadier General N. Houghton, who was in command of a district, with headquarters at Columbia, S. C. It is needless to say that in these various responsible and onerous offices our subject acquitted himself with honor and proved to be an invaluable officer, whose services were highly appreciated by his superiors in command.

After leaving the army in 1866 Mr. Iden passed three years in Indiana quietly engaged in teaching and farm labor. On the 11th of November, 1869, he was united in marriage to Miss Alice Disher, and they moved at once to their present farm in Nebraska, where they have ever since lived. Mr. Iden has been very successfully engaged in agriculture, and has his farm, whose soil is rich and



productive, under good improvement, well supplied with neat and tasty buildings and all the conveniences for carrying on farming to a good advantage. The married life of our subject and his wife has been exceedingly pleasant, and to them have been born two children, one of whom died in infancy. Their daughter Zella is in her fifteenth year. Mrs. Iden's parents and grandparents were natives of Kentucky, but she was born in Whitewater, Ind. Her parents and brothers are now living near Bourbon, Marshall Co., Ind.

Mr. Iden is endowed with a vigorous, well-cultivated intellect, and a deep tender nature, and he holds strong and sensible convictions on all subjects of general interest. He is a quiet, unassuming man, careful and considerate in his dealings with others, and none know him but to respect and esteem him. We learn from his fellow-citizens in this county that he has frequently been urged to accept legislative honors and other positions of trust and responsibility, but that he has positively declined office, preferring the quiet home life of the farm to the turmoils and attendant discords of the political arena.



**S**ILAS L. BROWN, one of the representative citizens of Tecumseh, and resident on Webster and Tenth streets, is the son of Horace Brown, a native of the Keystone State, where he was born in the year 1820, and continued to make his home for about thirty years. In 1850 he went West to Illinois, settling near Decatur, where he followed his trade, which was that of a shoemaker. He received the hand of Mary A. Bradley, of Warren County, Ohio, in marriage, in the year 1846. Their union was consummated by the birth of six children, of whom three survived to mature years.

Horace Brown enlisted in Company F, 14th Illinois Infantry, and was in the Army of the Potomac. He was taken prisoner at Atlanta while on the historic march to the sea. He was thrown into Andersonville Prison, and succumbed to the horrors of that place. Captured in the month of October, he had passed beyond the reach of the hatred

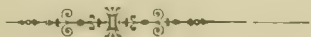
and cruelty of man, and was at rest before the spring again exerted its power on the earth. The family could only get the number of the grave where he was laid. His wife had died in the spring of 1861, when only thirty-two years of age, when the husband and father with four children were living, our subject being the second child.

Silas L. Brown, our subject, was born in Mercer County, Pa., on the 3d of October, 1848. For two years after this event the family continued to reside there, but at the end of that period migrated to Illinois. He remained at home until 1861, in which year the mother was removed by death, and shortly after he started and began life for himself. He found employment upon a farm, and continued thereon until 1879, when he sold out and came to this State. Here he for the greater part of the time worked as a carpenter. For five years he has had complete charge of the main and High School buildings, at the same time working at his trade. For two years he filled the office of Street Commissioner, and was very diligent and thorough in the execution of his duty.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah C. Watts, of Lovington, Ill., was celebrated on the 29th of December, 1872. They have become the parents of six children, who are all living; their names are recorded as follows: John H., Walter L., Lily F., Joe D., Ida May and Elmer E. They are all receiving the best educational advantages to be obtained in the city, and manifest a disposition and aptitude that are most promising. Mrs. Brown was born on the 15th of September, 1850, at Salina, Lancaster Co., Pa., and is a daughter of John and Sarah (Stackhouse) Watts. She went with her parents to Illinois in 1870, and continued to make her home with them until her marriage. Mr. John Watts, father-in-law of our subject, is a native of Pennsylvania, and continued to reside in his native county until going to the State of Illinois, where he still resides. By trade he is a cooper, and followed the same while a resident in the East, but in Illinois he has followed agricultural pursuits. His wife died in March, 1884, aged fifty-four years.

The grandfather of our subject, Silas Brown, was born in Mercer County, Pa., about 1785. He made his home there for the greater part of his life, fol-

lowing agricultural pursuits, and holding a very high place in the esteem of the community at large. In the subject of this sketch there are reproduced many of the virtues and family characteristics of this worthy citizen, and like him also, he is by them so commended to the community as to enjoy its unqualified esteem.



MRS. DESIRE J. KING, widow of the late Horace King, properly speaking holds a place in the community as a farmer, being the owner and director of an exceedingly fine farm of 127 acres on section 6 of Todd Creek Precinct. Her first introduction to the State was in January, 1881, when, with her husband, she left Illinois, and coming by way of Lincoln settled upon the place she still occupies, their son William L. (see sketch) having previously purchased it for them. It was at the time partly improved, but had to be supplied with a house before it could be settled upon.

On the 16th of September, 1885, Mrs. King's husband died, and although until then unused to the management of such affairs, she bravely took hold of the farm and continued as her husband had begun. She chiefly runs a stock farm, never feeding less than ten to twelve head of cattle and twenty-five to thirty of hogs per year.

The subject of our sketch was for many years a member of the Free Methodist Church while living in the East, but since being here, there being no organization of that body she has become attached to the Free-Will Baptists, and attends the church near her residence, in which she is highly regarded as one of the generous supporters and consistent members.

Mrs. King was born in Columbia County, N. Y., on the 16th of February, 1818, and there lived until after her marriage. She is the daughter of Asa Burton, of Columbia County, N. Y. She received the best education within the power of her parents to provide, and was very carefully trained by her parents in the home. Her father was born in the same county and always lived there. The maiden name of his wife, the mother of our subject, was

Abigail Wright. They were the parents of four children, all of whom attained to mature years, their daughter Desire being the youngest. Her father died when she was about two years of age; her mother continued to live at the old home until after the marriage of our subject; she then made her home with her daughter until her death, which occurred in Niagara, N. Y., on the 16th of January, 1855, when she was sixty-three years of age.

Columbia County, N. Y., was also the native county of Mr. Horace King. He was born on the 24th of April, 1811, and continued to make his home there until after his marriage, when he moved to Niagara County and followed agricultural pursuits until March, 1868, then, with his family of three children, removed to Henry County, Ill., and there was extensively engaged as a farmer. He was a man fond of his home, of his business and his family, but did not take a leading part in political affairs, although always ready and anxious to do his duty as a citizen, usually voting with the Republican party. He was a man of fine character, ability and enterprise, successful as a farmer and much esteemed by all who knew him. He was a devout member of the Free Methodist Church, connected therewith for many years. He had the reputation of being firm, thoroughly honest in every business transaction, and most reliably a man of his word.

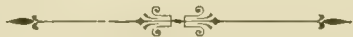
Mr. and Mrs. King were the parents of five children, three of whom are still living, viz: William L., Charles L. and Edward E. (sketches of the two latter are presented elsewhere in this volume). Edward E. was united in marriage with Miss Mary Whilholland, of Illinois, in June, 1867; they became the parents of three children, all of whom are living and whose names are as follows: Willia A., Sarah Anna and Mary Jane, the eldest and youngest with our subject. His wife dying in 1874, he subsequently became the husband of Miss Anna Osmond, of Galva, Ill., who has presented him with four children, who bear the following names: Alice E., Mabel G., George M. and Emma. He is interested in land in Colorado and has been in that State about eighteen months. He also owns a good farm in Todd Creek Precinct, and is shortly expected to return to it.

Amos King, the father of Horace, was a native



of Massachusetts, and was born in the year 1756. He settled in Columbia County, N. Y., shortly after the close of the Revolutionary War, through which struggle he had passed, bearing arms in defense of his country, entering the ranks when about sixteen years old. His first wife died after a very brief married life, and he was subsequently married to a Miss Bassett, of New York, who presented him with nine children. Horace King was the youngest of the nine children, seven of whom came to years of maturity. By his first marriage there had been six children born.

The father of our subject, Isaac Burton, was born in Massachusetts and there lived until he attained to years of manhood. When a young man he settled in Columbia County, N. Y., and cleared for himself a farm in the vicinity of the King homestead. This of course happened at a time when the Far West was an unknown district, and when the frontier was not far removed from the Atlantic. He was married and continued to live in the county and became the head of a considerable family. His first wife dying, he was married a second time, and two other children were added to the home circle. Religiously, he was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and filled the office of Deacon for many years.



**I**SRAEL CARMAN, a well-known resident of Spring Creek Precinct, and numbered among its representative farmers and stock-raisers, a gentleman in the prime of life, and the midst of his usefulness, operates a good farm on section 30, to which he came in February, 1866, and which embraces 350 acres of well-improved land. He has a substantial dwelling, with suitable barns and out-houses, and his homestead presents a peaceful picture of quiet country life, which is very pleasant to contemplate.

Our subject was born in Mason County, Ill., June 22, 1844, and is the son of Hon. Alfred A. and Elizabeth (Wheelock) Carman, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. He was reared in his native county, and received his education in its common schools, which at that day

afforded a wide contrast to the educational system of the present day. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War young Carman, then a little over seventeen years of age, enlisted, in December, 1861, in Company K, 33d Illinois Infantry, being assigned with his regiment to the Army of Missouri, and operating mostly in the Southwest and the State of Missouri until the spring of 1863, when they were transferred to the Department of the Mississippi. In the fall of that year they were transferred to the Department of the Gulf, with which division of the army they remained until the spring of 1865, then returned to the Department of the Mississippi. Young Carman fought with his comrades at the battles of Port Gibson and Jackson, Miss., Champion Hills, the siege of Vicksburg, Black River Bridge, Ft. Esperanza, the siege of Mobile, and in numerous other minor engagements and skirmishes, until the close of the war. Some months after the surrender of Gen. Lee he was mustered out, Nov. 21, 1865, and received his honorable discharge.

In the meantime the parents of our subject had moved to Nebraska, and taking in his old home on the way thither Israel soon joined them, being accompanied from Mason County by his father. The latter, in January, 1866, had returned to Illinois to take care of a crop of corn, and the father and son made the journey to Nebraska in a wagon, arriving in this county the latter part of the month.

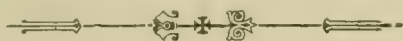
The marriage of Israel Carman and Miss Mary Allen was celebrated at the home of the bride in Spring Creek, Dec. 17, 1868. Mrs. Carman was born in Columbia County, Wis., March 31, 1848, and is the daughter of Alson and Catherine (Dolan) Allen, who were natives of Vermont and England respectively, and are now residents of Tecumseh, this State. They came to this county in June, 1867, and were among its earliest settlers, locating in Lincoln Precinct, the father being now seventy years of age, and the mother sixty-six. Mr. Allen has been a farmer all his life, but the parents are now retired from active labor, and surrounded by life's comforts are enjoying in their declining years the fruits of their early toil and sacrifice.

To Mr. and Mrs. Carman there was born one



child only, a son, Orvil, Sept. 13, 1869. They have labored hand in hand in the building up of their homestead, our subject admitting that his estimable wife has been a most efficient assistant and help-mate in his struggles for not only a livelihood, but a competence. They have gathered around them many friends during their long sojourn in Nebraska, and their roof has been a hospitable shelter from whom none are ever turned empty away. Mr. Carman, politically, is a staunch Republican. He has served as School Director in his district a number of years, and socially, belongs to the G. A. R., Roberts Post No. 104, at Talmage. Mrs. Carman is a member of the Baptist Church.

The mother of Mrs. Carman came to America with her mother and stepfather when eleven years old, and lived with them in Canada until a maiden of sixteen. They then came to the States, and settled first in Ohio, removing later to Adams County, Ill. Mrs. Allen is also a member of the Baptist Church, and politically, Mr. Allen is a Democrat.



**E**DWARD COOK, of Spring Creek Precinct, is a gentleman held in due respect by the people of his community, and is pursuing the even tenor of his way at a pleasant homestead on section 14. He was born in Racine County, Wis., Oct. 5, 1818, and is the son of Andrew and Hannah (Clulow) Cook, the former of whom died at her home in Tecumseh, in July, 1878. Further particulars of the family history are given under the name of our subject's father, Andrew Cook, on another page in this volume. Andrew Cook spent his boyhood and youth in England. After his first marriage he came to America, and coming directly West settled in Racine County, Wis., where he lived until 1858, and then with his family came to Nebraska. He settled first in Otoe County, but several years later came to Helena Precinct, this county, securing a tract of land on section 10. The family resided in that locality several years, and about 1872 the father took up his abode with his wife in Tecumseh, where he is still living, and where, until the spring of 1886, he was engaged in business. He has been married three times. Of his

first union, with Miss Clulow, there were born seven children, namely: John W., Charles C., Edward, Andrew, James W.; Elizabeth, the wife of Donald McCuaig, of Nebraska City, and Lucy J., Mrs. Samuel H. Fullerton, of Atchison, Kan. Mr. Cook, during the more active years of his life, was a man prominent in local affairs, and among other offices of trust he was a Commissioner of Johnson County, and Justice of the Peace. He is widely and favorably known throughout Tecumseh and vicinity, and ranks among the honored pioneers of this county, who have borne no unimportant part in its growth and development. He has been a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church for forty years.

Edward Cook, our subject, has been familiar with farming pursuits since his boyhood, and most of the time has been a resident of this county. His school advantages were limited, the educational system of Johnson County having not yet developed to its present condition. He has, however, kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and is a man generally well informed, both in regard to business matters and current events.

Our subject has been three times married, first in Nemaha Precinct, to Miss Mary Brooks, who became the mother of one child, a daughter, Minnie A., who was born Sept. 23, 1872, and is now with her father. His second wife was Miss Mattie R. Brooks, an aunt of the first, who also became the mother of one child, the latter of whom died in infancy. Mrs. Mattie R. Cook died in 1875.

To the present wife of our subject, who in her girlhood was Miss Susie B. Durham, our subject was married in California, July 10, 1878. This lady was born May 15, 1855, and is the daughter of J. H. and Burnetta C. Durham, who were natives of Kentucky, and are now residents of Colusa County, Cal. Of this marriage there are four children, namely: Hannah N., born Aug. 2, 1879; Jessie, Sept. 7, 1881; Ethel M., Nov. 3, 1884; and Georgie L., Jan. 29, 1886.

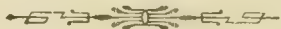
The homestead proper comprises 160 acres of land, but aside from this Mr. Cook owns land to the amount of 240 acres elsewhere. He has good improvements on his farm, the fences and buildings being creditable alike to his industry and good

taste. The live stock and farm machinery are of first-class description, and the whole comprises one of the most valuable estates in the county. Mr. and Mrs. Cook are prominent and popular in the social circles of their community, and the latter is a member in good standing of the Baptist Church. In his stock-raising Mr. Cook makes a specialty of Hambletonian and draft horses, exhibiting some of the finest specimens of the equine race to be found in this section.



**H**UGH L. COOPER, of the firm of Pool & Cooper, publishers and proprietors of the *Johnson County Journal* at Tecumseh, was born in Lewistown, Ill., on the 10th of November, 1850, and lived there with his parents until a lad of seven years. Thence they removed to Page County, Iowa, where Hugh L. completed his education and began his business career as a printer boy in the office of the *Page County Herald* at Clarinda. There he remained until 1868, and was afterward variously employed as a journeyman until the year 1885. He then purchased the *Page County Democrat*, which he conducted until November, 1886, then sold to secure an interest in the *Johnson County Journal*, with which he became connected in March, 1887.

Mr. Cooper was married, July 11, 1876, to Miss Mabel Lavaux, of Atchison, Kan. To Mr. and Mrs. C. there have been born two bright little girls, Eva L. and Wilma E.



**J**ACOB FINZER is one of the practical, progressive and successful farmers of Helena Precinct, and is the owner of a valuable property of 322 acres, situated on sections 29 and 32, township 6 north, range 11 east. He was born at Capalon, Switzerland, on the 21st of March, 1847. He was the seventh child of eleven born to his parents, Benedict and Anna Finzer, who were natives of the same country. The ten named are: Benjamin, now in Tuscarawas County, Ohio; Nicholas, in Defiance County, that

State; David, in Tuscarawas County; John, who fell while in the service of the Union in the late war; Frederick, deceased; Jacob, our subject; Mary, now the wife of John Urer, of Tuscarawas County; Elizabeth, Mrs. W. E. Brown, of Clay County, Ind.; Rosa, who is married to C. Winger, also of Tuscarawas County; and Margaret, who is deceased.

In 1853 the father of our subject, with his family, came to America by way of Antwerp, where they took passage on a sailing-vessel, and after about forty days landed in the city of New York, settling, as has already been surmised, in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. The county was at that time very sparsely settled, and almost entirely undeveloped. He is now about eighty years of age, and is enjoying the result of former years of labor in the comparative quiet of a retired life. His wife, the mother of our subject, died in the year 1872, being then sixty-three years of age.

Our subject was educated and brought up in Ohio, living at home until he attained his majority. He learned the trade of stonemason, and continued to follow the same for some nine years. About the year 1877 he went to Defiance County, Ohio, continuing to follow his trade, and also engaging in agricultural pursuits until 1881. It was then he decided to turn his face westward, and accordingly made his way to this State, and settled upon the farm he still owns and occupies.

Mr. Finzer turned his back upon single life in 1878, celebrating his marriage with Elizabeth Cutavern, on the 15th of March of that year. There have come to them four children, whose names are mentioned as follows: Veva A., Della E., Manford C. and Venus. The first mentioned, however, is the only surviving child. Mrs. Finzer is the daughter of John C. and Anna Cutavern, and was born in Ohio, Nov. 19, 1843.

Whatever prosperity and financial success have come to our subject, it is but the harvest reaped as the result of industry, intelligence and thrift. He has 322 acres of land, well improved, highly cultivated and most satisfactorily productive. He owns a good set of farm buildings, and has his farm supplied with the needed implements, etc.

In all questions regarding Government and po-





RESIDENCE OF J. R. WHITNEY, SEC. 7. SPRING CREEK PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF WILLIAM FULLER, SEC. 6 (4.-12.) TODD CREEK PRECINCT.

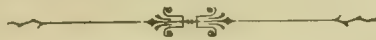


RESIDENCE OF JACOB FINZER, SEC 29. HELENA PRECINCT.





litical economy Mr. Finzer is governed by the same principles as those advocated by the Democratic party, of which he has from the first been a member. As a family that of our subject is greatly esteemed and respected in the community.



**JOHN R. WHITNEY.** Among the men who have reflected honor upon the reputation of Johnson County, none are more worthy of representation than the subject of this sketch. He crossed the Mississippi from Illinois in the fall of 1865, while Nebraska was still a Territory, and took up his abode first in Nemaha County. He battled with the elements of the primitive soil in that region about one year only, then changed his residence to this county, homesteading 160 acres of land on section 7, Spring Creek Precinct, where he still resides.

Mr. Whitney labored in true pioneer style for the development of his land, placing fences and erecting buildings, gathering gradually together farm machinery and stock, and in due time found himself on the high road to prosperity. At different times he invested a portion of his surplus capital in additional land, and is now the owner of a half-section. His possessions are the result of his own industry and good management, as he received no inheritance, except his strong hands and willing heart. He has taken an active interest in the progress and development of his adopted county, contributing as he has had opportunity to her progress and welfare, serving as School Director for nine successive years, and being the first man to occupy this position in his district. He is essentially one of those comprising the bone and sinew of the great commonwealth of Nebraska. Notwithstanding he has labored long and accomplished wonderful results, he is still in the prime of life, and in the midst of his usefulness.

The 5th of July, 1832, witnessed the birth of our subject in Washington County, Ohio, at the modest home of his parents, John and Sarah (Chapman) Whitney. They were of New England birth and parentage, and came of a patriotic race, who were found in the ranks of the American soldiery

during the struggles of the infant Republic in its assertion of independence. Nathaniel Chapman, a maternal uncle of our subject, especially distinguished himself in the War of 1812. To John and Sarah Whitney there were born eleven children, of whom the following survive, namely: William, a resident of Henry County, Ill.; Advent, of St. Louis, Mo.; Mary J., living in Colorado; Amarilla, the wife of Randolph Coburn, of Morgan County, Ohio; John R., our subject; Boilston S., of Page County, Iowa, where Henry and George B. also reside; Eliza S., now Mrs. Johnson, who resides in Bennet, Lancaster Co., Neb. The two deceased are Nathaniel and James G., who died in Dakota and Ohio, when about fifty and thirty-three years, respectively. Nathaniel was a physician, and James was a minister. The father departed this life at his home in Ohio, Jan. 6, 1849, when middle aged. The mother twenty years later contracted a second marriage, with George Brown, of Ohio, was again left a widow, and remained so until her death. She died at the home of her daughter in Ohio, Nov. 7, 1885, when nearly eighty-three years of age.

Our subject was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving his education in the pioneer schools, and becoming familiar with farm pursuits as carried on in the Buckeye State. It is hardly necessary to say that his advantages in nowise corresponded with those afforded the young men of today. He was at an early age taught those habits of industry and principles of honor which have been the secret of his success in life. He has followed farming continuously, being content with the quiet of country life and its peaceful pursuits. Upon leaving home in the spring of 1853, he made his way to DeKalb County, Ill., bound to see something of the world, and for a time was employed there on a farm, at \$12.50 per month; the gentleman who employed him was Robert Robb, now a resident of Tecumseh, Johnson Co., Neb. He was first married in April, 1857, in DeKalb County, Ill., to Mrs. Lucinda Hainer, *nee* Malthy, who was born in New York State. They settled in Boone County, Ill., and became the parents of five children, who are now comfortably settled in life, and located as follows: Delbert in Sterling, this county; Annie, the wife of Noel Crook, in Nemaha County; Alva L.

in Spring Creek Precinct, this county; Harmon and Eddie G., at home with their father. Mrs. Lucinda Whitney departed this life at her home in Spring Creek, Nov. 18, 1885.

Our subject contracted a second matrimonial alliance, March 31, 1887, with Mrs. Julia Biggs, *nee* Elrod, who was born Nov. 15, 1834, in Montgomery County, Ind. Mrs. Whitney is the daughter of John and Sarah (Stultz) Elrod. Her parents were natives of Virginia and Pennsylvania respectively, and are now deceased. Our subject continued a resident of Boone County, Ill., until coming to Nebraska.



**W**ILLIAM FULLER, one of the earliest pioneers along the southern line of Johnson County, has become wealthy from the soil of Nebraska, and is owner of one of the finest farms in Todd Creek Precinct, which, in addition to all the modern improvements, includes one of its handsomest residences. Mr. Fuller is an extensive landowner, having besides the homestead farm 160 acres in Pawnee County, Neb., and the same amount in Decatur County, Kan. He is a self-made man, one who has worked his way to his present position in life by industry and perseverance, and at the same time his career has been such as to gain him the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens.

Mr. Fuller came to the young State of Nebraska in the month of May, 1868, and first purchased a half-section of prairie land in Lincoln Precinct. He labored upon it for a time, although not putting up any buildings, being then a single man, and boarding with a neighbor. In the spring of 1870 he sold this land and purchased that which he now occupies, taking possession in the spring of 1871, and commencing the improvements which have made it one of the most valuable estates in the county. It was then an unbroken prairie, with not a tree or building, and it has taken years of labor and thousands of dollars to bring it to its present condition. The farm is enclosed with beautiful hedge fencing, the fields being divided with the same, and the effect

upon the landscape is delightful to behold. Mr. Fuller planted ten acres of forest trees together with an apple orchard, and all kinds of the small fruits. The farm of late years has been chiefly devoted to stock-raising, including graded Short-horn cattle, of which our subject buys and sells largely each year. He is also working his way toward a fine stock of horses, mostly Clydesdales, and also to Poland-China swine.

Mr. Fuller from the first has been a prominent man in his community, although carefully avoiding the responsibilities of office. Liberal and public-spirited, he is foremost in encouraging the enterprises tending to the welfare of the people around him, and uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket. In religious matters he has been identified with the Free-Will Baptist Church for several years. He is a man in the prime of life, having been born Sept. 13, 1840. His boyhood home was eight miles south of the city of Peoria, Ill., where he lived until a young man of twenty-one years, acquiring a practical education in the common schools.

Soon after the outbreak of the late Civil War young Fuller hastened to the defense of the Union, enlisting in Company I, 32d Illinois Infantry, and under the command of Gen. Grant fought at Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing, and was in other important battles of the war. At Pittsburg Landing he was wounded in the right arm and conveyed to the hospital in St. Louis, whence soon afterward he returned home on a furlough. His wound was slow in healing, and he was obliged to accept an honorable discharge for disability. As soon as sufficiently recovered, however, he again entered the ranks in his old regiment, and marched with Gen. Sherman to the sea. Mr. Fuller had the happiness this time of serving as a soldier until the close of the war, when for the second time he received his discharge and was mustered out.

Our subject now took up his residence in Logan County, Ill., where he carried on farming two years, then sold out, and resolved to cast his lot with the pioneers of Nebraska. With them he fought grasshoppers and drouth, and the many other difficulties which beset the people of this region during the early days. Looking around him now, not only at his own beautiful home, but the homesteads



of the enterprising and intelligent people about him, he feels amply repaid for his toil and sacrifice.

For the last eighteen years there has presided over the household of our subject a lady who in her girlhood was Miss Frances Emery, and to whom he was married in Todd Creek Precinct, this county, April 23, 1871. This union resulted in the birth of three children, two only of whom are living: Hattie E. and Carlton C. They are giving them a good education, and they still remain under the parental roof.

Mrs. Frances (Emery) Fuller was born in the Province of Upper Canada, March 26, 1850, and is the daughter of George and Sarah (Robbins) Emery. The father was born in Canada, April 14, 1819, where he was reared and married, and where he lived until the fall of 1866. He then came to Nebraska with his family, living the first year in Nemaha County, and then moved to Lincoln Precinct, in this county, where he homesteaded a good farm of sixty acres, and occupied it until 1884. He then retired from active labor and took up his residence in Crab Orchard, where he is still living, and is now quite well advanced in years. The mother is living with her husband at Crab Orchard. The parental household included six children, all of whom are living, and are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Emery was a prominent man during the earlier years of his life, and especially active in church work, officiating as Steward, Class-Leader and Trustee in the Methodist Episcopal Church since a young man twenty-one years of age.

Alexander Fuller, the father of our subject, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, Sept. 13, 1817. He left the Buckeye State about the time of reaching his majority, and located among the pioneers of Peoria County, Ill. There he secured a tract of land from which he eliminated a good farm, where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in January, 1886. There also the children were reared, receiving careful parental training, and always considered their childhood home as the dearest spot on earth. Alexander Fuller was married to Miss Hannah Corvgill, in his native State, and they took their bridal tour to Illinois, overland with a team, and spent their honeymoon in an

humble dwelling in the timber, where they lived happily until moving into a more pretentious residence. The household circle was completed by the birth of eight children, six of whom lived to mature years. They are now living, and are mostly residents of Illinois.

The mother of our subject was born in 1819, and departed this life at the old homestead in Peoria County, Ill., in the fall of 1856. The father was subsequently married, and of his second union there were born other children. James Fuller, the paternal grandfather, was a farmer by occupation, and also emigrated from Ohio to Illinois, spending his last days in Peoria County.

Our subject and his estimable wife have labored hand in hand in the building up of their homestead, the education of their children, and in the effort to benefit these around them as opportunity afforded. Their hospitable roof is the resort of hosts of friends, to whom they extend those courtesies which will long be remembered after they have departed hence. In the growth and development of Johnson County Mr. Fuller has been no unimportant factor, and he has by an honorable career built up a monument for himself upon which his descendants will look with pride in later years.

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**A**LONZO B. NOBLE is prosperously engaged in the livery business in Sterling. He is well known as an early pioneer of Johnson County, has been identified both with its agricultural and mercantile interests, and is now numbered among its solid and well-to-do citizens. Much of the growth of the county has taken place under his eye since he became a resident of Nebraska, and he may well be proud that he has had a hand in the development of such a prosperous and wealthy region.

Mr. Noble was born in Wayne County, N. Y., April 15, 1841, and when he was eleven years old his parents, Ozem and Ophelia (Birdsey) Noble, moved with their family to Whiteside County, Ill., There the remaining years of his boyhood and youth were passed, and there the breaking out of the war found him just twenty years of age, ready

and willing to assist his companions in the defense of the institutions of our country that were so seriously menaced by the Rebellion, and Nov. 2, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, 46th Illinois Infantry, as a private. For two years and ten months he took part in many hardly contested battles, and was present at Shiloh on the 6th and 7th of April, 1862; he was at the siege of Vicksburg that lasted about forty days, and in action in various other important engagements. He was finally sent home on sick leave, reported at Chicago, was sent to the city hospital, where he was discharged, and returned to his friends sound, excepting the results of sickness and exposure, and the measles, from which he had suffered while in the army, had somewhat impaired his health.

The next decisive step in the life of our subject, and one that had an important bearing on the establishment of a home, was his marriage to Miss Bellmina Kline, daughter of Jacob and Margaret Kline, which took place in Whiteside County, Ill., June 24, 1865. After the birth of two children, Iola B. and Victor A., both of whom are living, Mrs. Noble's pleasant wedded life was brought to a close by her death in February, 1873. She was a lady whose many kindly traits of character endeared her to all who came under her influence. Mr. Noble was married to his present wife, Margaret Kline, a sister of his first wife, in February, 1874. She is a kind and devoted wife and mother, caring tenderly for her sister's children and for those born to her and her husband, of whom the following is recorded: Florence died at the age of eight months, and then came Flora V., Charles F., Cynthia C. and Horace C., the latter dying at the age of eight months.

During the Christmas holidays of 1867, our subject left his old home in Illinois to seek a new one under the sunny Nebraska skies, bringing with him his family. Under the provision of the Homestead Act, he took up a 160-acre tract of land in what was then Sterling Precinct, but is now known as Vesta, on sections 14 and 15, township 5, range 10. He was actively engaged in its improvement until the fall of 1872, when he received the appointment of Postmaster at Vesta, and moved into the village, and during his stay there of ten years in that capacity,

was also engaged in general merchandising, having a pioneer store of dry-goods, groceries, hardware and drugs. His store was then the only one between Tecumseh and Beatrice, except the one kept by J. M. Nelson, who closed out soon after our subject opened his, leaving his rival a clear field. In the fall of 1882 Mr. Noble came to Sterling, and was engaged in buying and selling grain for about four months. We then hear of him in Crab Orchard, where he built a stable and conducted a livery business for six months. At the expiration of that time he returned to Sterling, and established himself in the mercantile business, which he carried on for four years, and the last year and a half was also engaged in the livery business in connection with his store. He sold the latter Aug. 1, 1888, disposing of the stock and good-will, but retaining his ownership of the building. He is now giving his exclusive attention to his livery business, which is quite extensive, he having a first-class establishment, with good horses and neat and comfortable vehicles.

Mr. Noble is an active, wide-awake man, whose success in life is due to industrious habits and good business principles. He stands well in this community as a citizen, as a husband, father and neighbor, and is well liked by all who come in contact with him. Politically, he is a Republican, and socially, belongs to Sill Post No. 99, G. A. R., of Sterling.

**W**ILLIAM L. DUNLAP. In the present sketch it will be endeavored to present in compendious form the biography of the County Surveyor, who held that office from 1865 to 1875 continuously, and also from 1878 to 1883, returning to the office in 1885, and is still holding it. A record almost we believe unparalleled, and including a period of twenty-one years. In 1884-85 Mr. Dunlap was County Clerk. To this office he was elected on the Independent ticket, but in every other instance by the Republican party. The first map of the county was drawn by his hand, and he is perhaps one of the best known citizens and most popular men in the county.

Mr. Dunlap was elected delegate to the Consti-



tutional Convention at Lincoln, where the present State Constitution was drawn up. The county which he has surveyed so much is eighteen miles north and south, and twenty-one east and west. It was he who platted the village of Tecumseh in 1869, and also Sterling. Previous to drawing the map of the county he conducted a special survey of it in every part with that object in view.

Our subject was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., on the 22d of April, 1824, where he lived until he reached his sixteenth birthday, when he moved to Butler County, in the same State. His education was received at the Butler Academy, which was situated at the county seat. His residence in Butler continued until 1845, when he migrated to Adams County, Ill., to teach school, which profession he followed for some time, after which he taught in Rock Island and in Bureau County. He was compelled, however, to make some change, as his health threatened to give way under the confinement and constant application necessary to the maintenance of the high grade of efficiency which he deemed essential to success. As a result he took up surveying, with which he had made some acquaintance in his youth, for a time linking with this work that of millwright and carpenter, which he prosecuted in Chicago until the fall of 1861.

In September of that year Mr. Dunlap enlisted in the defense of the Union in Company I, 56th Illinois Infantry, and was appointed First Lieutenant. He served with that regiment until January, 1862, when he was mustered out, and again resumed working at his trade in Chicago until 1864. On the 22d of March in that year he went back to the army, and served as Quartermaster's clerk until March of the year following. Then he came direct through to Tecumseh, and was among the first to make farm improvements in the county. He also put up the first frame buildings and dwelling-house west of Yankee Creek. This property is still standing, although he has had hard work to save it from forest fire on many different occasions.

After seven years of farming, interspersed with surveying, Mr. Dunlap was elected in 1865 County Surveyor, from which time, as above noted, he has continued to work in connection therewith. He removed to the city of Tecumseh in February, 1872,

both on account of business, and in order to give his children the benefit of its schools. He was the contractor who erected the schools, both common and High, and also the jail. He built the fine residence owned by Mrs. Wright, the John Beattie building, and many other of the larger and better houses and business blocks. From the time of his removal to the city he has been a prominent resident, being thereby the better able to attend to his official duties, and finding it more convenient for headquarters.

Mr. Dunlap is an energetic member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and holds the office of Trustee in the same. As a worker in the Sunday-school he has always been among those most deeply interested, taking great pleasure therein. In the Masonic fraternity he is always welcomed as a worthy and esteemed brother. He was united in marriage with Miss Martha Beattie, March 22, 1849, and there were born of the union two children, viz: Samuel W. and Alice, the latter being now deceased; the former is in Missouri. After the death of his first wife he became the husband of Miss Ellen J. Calvin, who bore him three children, all of whom are living, viz.: Luella, William A. and Emma J. The eldest child was united in marriage with J. W. Law, of Nonpareil, Box Butte Co., Neb.; they are the parents of two children. William A. also is married, and lives at Rushville, Neb. The younger daughter is now Mrs. Snyder, and also resides at Rushville. Mrs. Dunlap, after a short illness, died on the 8th of January, 1864.

Our subject, subsequent to the above sad bereavement, married Miss Lucinda Storm, of Nemaha County. The event was celebrated on the 16th of November, 1865. Ten children were born to them, all of whom are living. Their names are recorded as follows: Anna B., Mary B., Melissa, Josephine, Clarence, Dora, Grace, Ruth, Roxie and Helen. These are all receiving a good education, and live at home with their parents.

James Dunlap, the father of our subject, was born in 1793, in Westmoreland County, Pa., and there made his home until he was forty-six years of age, when he removed to Butler County, in the same State, continuing there until his death, in 1864. The life occupation of this gentleman was agricult-



ure. His wife was Mary Van Dyke, of Pennsylvania. They were the parents of twelve children, all but one of whom came to mature years. His wife lived until 1879.

William Dunlap, the grandfather of our subject, was a native of Ireland, and was born near the city of Londonderry in the year 1740, and came to this country in 1766, when he established the old Dunlap homestead in Pennsylvania. He was the father of nine children, most of whom settled in Pennsylvania, and are the progenitors of the Dunlap family in this country, members of which have migrated to almost every State in the Union.

The subject of our sketch has built a fine residence in the city, on Twenty-first and Garfield streets, and retains his farm in Nemaha County. He is undoubtedly a man of finely developed character, progressive, a lover of good morals, loyal and public spirited.



**COL. NICHOLAS F. HITCHCOCK.** Prominent among the business men of Johnson County, who are sustaining and advancing its financial interests, is the gentleman who forms the subject of this biographical notice. He is one of the leading citizens of Sterling, and the proprietor of the Johnson County Bank of that place. He was born Dec. 29, 1832, in Perry County, Ohio, and is a son of John F. and Rosana (Kelly) Hitchcock, natives respectively of New York and Virginia. He is derived from a mingled Anglo-Celtic ancestry. His paternal grandfather, Isaac Hitchcock, came from England with two brothers about 110 years ago, and located in Maryland, one of his brothers settling in Alabama and the other in New York. Henry Kelly, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Ireland, who emigrated to this country and settled in Maryland, near Baltimore, and there the mother of our subject was born and reared, and there, also, his father was reared, but they moved to Ohio prior to their marriage, which occurred in 1828, in Perry County, Ohio. Of this union there were born eight children, four sons and four daughters, as follows: Elizabeth,

Nicholas F., Henry K., Isah, Susannah, Salathiel A., Leah A. and Rebecca J. Elizabeth died at the age of ten years, and Isah in infancy.

Our subject was reared in his native county, and was there united in marriage, March 6, 1854, to Miss Jemima Engle, a native of Ohio, and the daughter of Paul and Mary (Petty) Engle, who were of German descent, and went from New Jersey to Ohio, where they spent their last years. While yet a young man our subject began to take part in the public life of his native State, and also became prominently identified with its educational interests, he having received a liberal education, and when the war broke out he was engaged in the profession of teaching, and also held the office of Justice of the Peace. But this quiet life was not destined to continue much longer, as his country had more important work for him to do, and in the stirring scenes of battle he was to win a military record of which his children and his children's children for many generations to come might well be proud. He soon began, with all his energy and spirit, to organize a company, known as Company H, 90th Ohio Infantry, and through his influence it was equipped and ready for service in the spring of 1862, he receiving the commission of Captain. When he marched into camp on the 9th of July with his regiment he received deserved promotion to the office of Lieutenant-Colonel for gallantry and efficiency in the trying scenes of deadly conflict, when it required the utmost coolness and courage to face the foe. He took an active part in many of the most important engagements of the war. He was at Richmond, Ky., and at Louisville, that State, from whence he and his command, with other regiments, followed the rebel General, Bragg, to Perryville, and from there on his retreat to Stone River, where a heavy battle was fought. They still continued to pursue Bragg, and to watch and counteract his manœuvres as far as Chattanooga. After that the Colonel's regiment was engaged in the Atlantic campaign until the fall of Atlanta, and then, while Sherman made his famous march to the sea, our subject and his men returned to Nashville, where they had the noted engagement with the confederate General, Hood, and captured several of his men, and then pursued him

into Georgia, and there had several encounters with him. When the rebel General left for the Carolinas our subject gathered together the fragments of his regiment and marched to the French Broad, where he staid until after Lee's surrender to Grant, and then, with his regiment, retired to Camp Harter, near Nashville, where his active services ceased. He was subsequently mustered out at Camp Division, June 24, 1865, and returned home unscathed by a wound, although he had been in the heat of so many battles.

After the war the Colonel returned to his old home in Perry County, Ohio, and for several years was prosperously engaged in the general merchandise, milling and tobacco business. But in 1880 he settled up his affairs in that State, and on the 29th of January, 1881, started with his family for Sterling, Neb., having resolved to make his home for the future in this genial, health-giving clime. He arrived here February 2, and soon established himself in his present business as a banker and real-estate dealer. Col. Hitchcock and his estimable wife have one of the most attractive homes in Sterling, and they and their family occupy the highest social position. Ten children have blessed their happy married life, of whom nine are living, as follows: John H. is still living in Stoutsville, Ohio, where he is successfully engaged in farming; J. Hall is one of the leading attorneys of Sterling; Salathiel C. has taken up land in Kansas, but is still an inmate of the parental home; Ellsworth R. is a teacher in the schools of Sterling; Harvey F. is with his father as cashier of the Johnson County Bank; Mary is now Mrs. Joseph Sain, of Harper, Kan.; Rosanna is Mrs. Lafayette Grimes, of this city; Alice and Ura, who are at home with their parents, are two bright young misses just budding into womanhood, and are the pride of the family and general favorites in the community. They are attending the graded school of the city preparatory to entering a higher school for the purpose of finishing their education, it being the high motive of the parents to give their children a finished education, and the young ladies give the family great encouragement in the progress in their studies, promising to become efficient in all the branches, and making themselves the equals of the elder members of the

family in point of education. They are both accomplished young ladies, and give promise of casting sunshine into the lives of their parents in their declining years, and assuring them that their efforts have not been in vain.

John H. Hitchcock was married, March 1, 1876, to Miss Mary A., daughter of Benjamin and Eliza Reed, Rev. L. W. Laukey, of Stoutsville, Ohio, officiating. This lady was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 19, 1857. Her father, a native of Pennsylvania, was born in Moonshine Township, Schuylkill County, where he lived until a youth of sixteen years, and was married to Miss Leah Klar, Feb. 8, 1844. Benjamin Reed departed this life Oct. 25, 1887, at Stoutsville, Ohio. The mother is now with her daughter in Stoutsville, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Reed were both members of the Evangelican Association, to which John H. Hitchcock and his wife also belong. This gentleman, politically, is a Democrat "dyed in the wool." He is the father of one child, a daughter, Cecil R., who was born Jan. 10, 1880.

Miss Mary H. Hitchcock was born March 28, 1855, and married at her father's residence in Perry County, Ohio, to Joseph W. Sain, May 27, 1877. Mr. Sain, a native of that county, was born Dec. 30, 1848, and began teaching when a youth of seventeen years, continuing until his marriage. The young people soon afterward took up their residence in Ringgold County, Iowa, where Mr. Sain improved a farm from a tract of wild prairie, and where they lived a period of seven years. They then changed their residence to Harper County, Kan., and later removed thence to Kiowa County, where Mr. Sain pre-empted 160 acres of land, and took up his residence in Harper City, where they now live in a very pleasant home. Mr. Sain is the son of Peter and Elizabeth (Wright) Sain, the former of whom was born April 8, 1822, and married Miss Elizabeth Wright, Dec. 14, 1847. He died at his home in Perry County, Ohio, Feb. 1, 1865, from disease which he contracted in the army. He was a member of Company C, 160th Ohio National Guards, and participated in the battles of Monocacy and Maryland Heights. Mrs. Elizabeth (Wright) Sain was born Oct. 25, 1826, in Perry County, Ohio, and died March 14, 1879, in the latter county. Both



she and her husband are buried in Otterbein Cemetery, that county. They were the parents of five children, namely: Joseph W., Sarah S., Emma C., William E. and Thomas H., all of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Sain were most excellent and worthy people, and members in good standing of the United Brethren Church. Joseph W. Sain and his wife belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Sain, politically, is a staunch Republican.

Rosanna Hitchcock, now Mrs. Grimes, was born March 30, 1858. This lady is highly educated, being a graduate of the select school at Junction City, under Prof. James Conner, of Ohio. She, like the balance of the family, occupies a high position in society, being an expert in instrumental and vocal music. The marriage of Rosanna Hitchcock to LaFayette Grimes was celebrated at the residence of the Presiding Elder, Rev. L. F. Britt, of Nebraska City, Oct. 30, 1882. Of this union there are two bright and interesting children, Gracie E. and Harvey S., who bring sunshine into the household, and in whom the parents take great pride. LaFayette Grimes was born in Decatur, Macon Co., Ill., Dec. 5, 1852, and is the son of George W. and Sarah A. (Smoot) Grimes, natives respectively of Ohio and Virginia. They were the parents of six children, four of whom are still living, named as follows: LaFayette, Alexander, William L. and Josiah. The parents are now residents of Sterling, this county.

Harvey F. Hitchcock, now connected with his father as cashier of the Johnson County Bank, is a graduate of Mallalien University, of Bartley, Neb. He is a young man of more than ordinary ability, having assumed the responsible position of teacher at the age of sixteen years, in which calling he attained the same high honors that are accredited his brother in another part of this volume. In his present position he is discharging his duties to the entire satisfaction of parties having business connections with the Johnson County Bank. He is yet unmarried, and a great favorite among the elite of the city and community, being of a very affable disposition, always courteous, with a pleasant word for all who come in contact with him, socially or in a business way. He is one of a few young men who have a bright future before them, and is trying to make out of it all there is in it, and the pres-

ent outlook bespeaks for him a place in business, as well as social, circles that will be honored by all.

The Colonel is eminently deserving of the honor and confidence in which he is held by all who come in contact with him, either socially or in a business way, as in his conduct he is conscientiously guided by the loftiest principles of right. As a citizen he has ever been loyal and patriotic in his acts, and his private life is irreproachable. In his capacity of financier and as a prompt, enterprising business man, he is doing much to build up the city and county. Politically, he and his sons, with the exception of John H., are firm supporters of the Republican party. Religiously, he and his wife are among the leading members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, their forefathers having been identified with that denomination almost from the very founding of Methodism.

EDWARD F. BELL, a prosperous farmer and leading land-owner of Vesta Precinct, has a fine homestead on section 31, comprising a well-developed farm of 340 acres with substantial buildings. He is a Western man by birth and education, his native place being in Peoria County, Ill., where he first opened his eyes to the light June 14, 1856. He completed a thorough education in the Presbyterian College at Highland, Kan., and came to Nebraska in 1871, settling at once in Vesta Precinct. He became familiar with agricultural pursuits in his boyhood, and has made this calling his through his entire life.

The parents of our subject, John and Rachel (Paddock) Bell, were natives of Ohio, and the father a farmer by occupation. They are still residents of Doniphan County, Kan. The parental family included ten children, eight of whom are living and residents of Kansas and Nebraska.

Our subject in the spring of 1873 went into El Paso County, Colo., and secured 160 acres of land along the Wet Mountain Valley, two and one-half miles from Rosetta, where he operated a stock ranch two years, but in 1875 returned to Kansas, and thence came back to this county in the fall of 1877. He is a fine judge of live stock and makes a







RESIDENCE OF J. M. CATHCART SEC. 21 SPRING CREEK PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF H. W. JONES SEC. 21 NEMAH PRECINCT

specialty of graded cattle, keeping good breeds of Durhams. Mr. Bell was married at the home of the bride in Lincoln, Neb., June 14, 1831, to Miss Maude E., daughter of Alexander and Augusta Conlee, of Washington, D. C. Mr. and Mrs. Bell began their wedded life together in Vesta Precinct, and are now the parents of three interesting children—Ethel A., Ralph E. and Gladys M. The family residence is a substantial and tasteful frame structure, handsomely furnished, and indicating both within and without cultivated tastes and ample means. The family is very prominent, socially, and Mr. Bell, politically, votes and labors in support of the principles of the Republican party. He possesses considerable musical talent and is a leading member of the Vesta Cornet Band. His land is under a thorough state of cultivation, is well watered and highly productive. He has all the modern farm machinery, including an expensive windmill and all the other appliances required by the modern and progressive agriculturist. In building up one of the most valuable farms of Johnson County, he has contributed this much toward its prosperity and development. He is held in high regard both as a citizen and as a business man, a thoroughly representative member of an intelligent and progressive community.



**J**OSEPH M. CATHICART. Among the successful agriculturists of Johnson County, who have grown up with it since its earlier history, is the subject of this writing, who is well and favorably known throughout the county, and is a resident on section 21, township 6 north, range 12 east, of Spring Creek Precinct, where he owns 116 acres of good land. He was born in Jefferson County, Pa., on the 5th of July, 1842, and is the son of Clark and Margaret (McSparran) Cathcart, both of whom were born in that State. His father, who is now residing in Decatur County, Kan., was born in the year 1812.

The subject of our sketch is the eldest living son of the family, and lived in his native county until he had reached his fifteenth year, when he went with his parents to Rock Island County, Ill., where they

settled. There also in 1865 the mother died, and subsequently the father came to Otoe County, but after a short sojourn removed to Kansas, where he has been from that time. In the district schools, and mostly in the winter months, our subject received what education he has obtained, which, however, was only sufficient as a groundwork, to which he has by care and reading added as he was able, until he has become a well-informed and fairly read man.

On the 1st of September, 1861, Mr. Cathcart enlisted in Company H, of the 37th Illinois Infantry, which was attached to the Western Army, first under Gen. Fremont, taking part in the battles of Pea Ridge, Prairie Grove, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, and numerous other engagements of greater or lesser note. During the period of his military experience, which was of three years' duration, he was under fire eight times. He received an honorable discharge on the 1st of October, 1864, after which he returned home to Illinois, and after a short rest and vacation re-enlisted, in the 2d Regiment of Veteran United States Volunteers, under the command of Gen. Hancock, but owing to the war closing as it did they were not engaged with the enemy. They were, however, continued in garrison duty until February, 1866, when they were discharged, twelve months from the date of enlistment.

The subject of our sketch came to this county in the spring of 1866, taking up as a homestead claim the land he still owns. He settled upon it in May and turned the first furrow, beginning to improve and cultivate the land, which he has brought to a very high state of productiveness and cultivation by his energy and intelligent labor. He has supplied it with the usual necessary buildings, all well planned and substantially constructed, besides which he has provided the many implements and machinery without which it is impossible to operate properly such a farm.

January 25, 1869, was the occasion of the celebration of the nuptials of Mr. Cathcart and Amy Ficken, to whom there have come nine children, whose names are recorded as follows: Addison C., Franklin F., Henry F., Margaret M., Ernest E., Archibald A., Walter J., Martha M., and Mary, who



is deceased. Mrs. Cathcart is the daughter of Nicholas and Frances Ficken, and was born in Missouri, Dec. 7, 1850, and until her marriage made her home with her parents.

When our subject emigrated to Nebraska from Illinois there were two parties besides himself, viz, his brother, William Cathcart, and a cousin, George Cathcart. They came together with two wagons and teams, bearing their worldly possessions, farm implements, cabin utensils, etc. The journey from Rock Island County, Ill., to this county occupied two weeks, but was filled with pleasing incidents en route. They erected a small frame dwelling, standing 14x16 feet, and constructed out of cottonwood lumber. This with some slight additions served for himself and family until about four years ago, when he built his present residence.

Mr. Cathcart is an enthusiastic member of the G. A. R., at Talmage, and is at present filling the position of Sergeant Major of the post, and his wife is just as enthusiastic as a member of the Women's Relief Corps. Politically, our subject is a Republican, and as such is deeply interested in the questions from time to time before the people. He is serving his district as Moderator, and for a number of years was School Treasurer. His pleasant home with its neat and tasteful surroundings is shown on another page.



**H**ENRY W. JONES. This gentleman has extensive stock interests, and is one of the enterprising and successful farmers of Nemaha Precinct. He particularly favors horses of the well-known and extensively used Hambletonian stock, and breeds among the best in the county. In previous years he has been quite active as a general farmer, but has been gradually retiring from that department. His farm, which adjoins the limits of Tecumseh, is one of the finest of the district, and until he sold part of his property on section 21 was also among the largest. A view of the place is shown on an accompanying page.

The history of Mr. Jones in this State dates from 1866. In that year he took a claim under the

Homestead Law in Helena Precinct, where he lived for about eighteen years, making all needed improvements, bringing the soil to a high state of cultivation, erecting an excellent house and the usual farm buildings. He has put out a fine grove of forest trees, and has planted an orchard that will compare favorably in point of quality and quantity of bearing with many much older properties. Part of the farm is carefully wired, and the remainder is supplied with a well-kept hedge by way of fencing.

Selling his first acquired property in 1884 for \$6,000, Mr. Jones bought the farm upon which he now makes his home, which overlooks Tecumseh, is within easy distance of the city, and offers a fine view of the surrounding country. All the buildings upon the farm, except the dwelling, have been built by our subject. He takes great pride in his farm, and is careful to have it equal to if not superior to those in the vicinity.

Henry W. Jones, the subject of this sketch, was born in Ross County, Ohio, on the 15th of December, 1838. Until he was sixteen years of age his home was made with his parents, who gave him the opportunity of obtaining a fair English education. At the end of that period he migrated to Illinois, and there alone in the world he started to make his fortune. He began by working on a farm in Logan County, Ill., and there continued for fourteen years. While thus employed he was married to Clarissa Shasteen. The union was celebrated on the 25th of March, 1858; there have been born to them four children, who are still living, and whose names are given as follows: Mary, Annie, Edward and James.

Until he came to this State our subject continued to live in Illinois. Since his settlement in Nebraska, however, he has made much progress in the work to which he set himself, and may fairly boast considerable progress. Usually he votes the Republican ticket, feeling more at home with the principles of that party than any other, and at all times ready to engage actively in its interests.

Of the children of our subject Mary is now Mrs. John Stollard, of this county, and is the mother of six children, whose names are as follows: Birdie, Henry, Milo, Wilber, Edward, and one who died in

childhood, named Clara. Annie is happily married to Henry Wakeman, of Tecumseh; they are the parents of four children, viz: Ralph, Bert, Allie and Jesse. Edward is in business in Lincoln, and James is at home. All have received good practical and business educations.

Clarrissa (Shasteen) Jones, the wife of our subject, was born in Ohio in the year 1844. Her father, Edward Shasteen, was a farmer. She was reared upon the home farm for the first eight years of her life, and then went to Illinois, residing at Irwin, Logan County, until the time of her marriage. Mr. Shasteen is still living, but has moved to this State, and is residing with his daughter in this county, his wife having died in the year 1867.

The father of our subject, Harris Jones, was also a native of Ohio. He followed farming and lived in Ross County until his death, which occurred on the Atlantic Ocean at the time our subject was six months old. He had started to visit England, but the boat upon which he took passage, owing to a storm, went down, with the loss of all on board excepting two only. His wife died in 1880, in Ross County, Ohio. Our subject was bound out and was away from home for sixteen years, during which time he acquired the knowledge of his trade.



**J**OHN KERSHAW, a well-to-do farmer of Nemaha Precinct, has been engaged in the successful cultivation of 240 acres of fine farming land a number of years, and by his industry and enterprise has surrounded himself with all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. His property is located on section 16, and besides his farm includes a handsome and substantial set of buildings, a goodly assortment of live stock, and the machinery necessary for carrying on agriculture in a profitable manner. He has been a resident of Nebraska since the spring of 1870, and is numbered among the leading citizens of Johnson County.

Our subject, of English ancestry, is the son of John Kershaw, Sr., who was born in England and when a small boy emigrated with his parents to America. They settled first in New York State, and

thence a few years later pushed on further westward into DuPage County, Ill. The father of our subject lived with his brother until ready to go upon a farm of his own, and became proprietor in due time of a tract of land in Dane County, Wis. He remained a resident of the Badger State until 1870, a period of nineteen years. In the spring of the year mentioned he came to this county and located upon the land which he had secured six years before. In the meantime he had been married to Miss Alice Lee, of Illinois, and a native of England, and to them were born five children, only four of whom are now living, and all residents of Nebraska.

After coming to this county the elder Kershaw put up a fine residence in Tecumseh, where he made his home until his death, which occurred Jan. 18, 1886. He was a man of more than ordinary capabilities, and prominent in the communities where he lived. In Wisconsin he officiated as Surveyor of Dane County and was also Treasurer of the School Board. His political sympathies were with the Democratic party, although he would not be confined to party lines, but aimed to support the men whom he considered best qualified for office.

Mrs. Alice (Lee) Kershaw, the mother of our subject, like her husband a native of England, was born in the city of Manchester, and came to America upon the same vessel which transported her future husband hither. The Lees settled first in Massachusetts, where they lived a period of fourteen years; thence they removed to Wisconsin. John Kershaw, Sr., and his wife began their wedded life together in Dane County, Wis., and there their son John, the subject of this sketch, was born Jan. 18, 1854. He was a youth of fourteen years when the family came to this State and completed his education in the schools of Tecumseh. When starting out for himself he secured a portion of the land which comprises his present homestead, and which he has now occupied for a period of ten years. The improvements which the passing traveler beholds to-day with interest have all been effected by the present proprietor. Many of the fields are divided with beautiful hedge fencing, which adds so greatly to the picturesqueness of the landscape, and Mr.



Kershaw has planted an orchard of 450 trees with all kinds of the smaller fruits, which are mostly in good bearing condition. He has thirty acres of valuable timber. The residence would be an ornament to the modern city, being a tasteful structure of modern style of architecture, handsomely finished and furnished. It was erected during the summer of 1884.

The farm of Mr. Kershaw is well stocked, he keeping a herd of from forty to sixty cattle and ten to fifteen horses, besides a goodly number of swine. The lady who has presided over his domestic affairs since the spring of 1880 became his wife on the 3d of May, that year, and is the mother now of three interesting children—Charles J., Theodore P. and Earl. One child, a son, Albert, died in infancy. The wife of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Anna Atkison, and was born Dec. 10, 1862, in Ohio, and is the daughter of James and Ruth (Darby) Atkison, who were natives of Virginia. The mother is still living, but the father is dead. They came to Nebraska and settled in Johnson County soon after the close of the late Civil War. The mother moved with her parents to Ohio, where she made the acquaintance of her future husband, Mr. A., who was a native of that State.



**JOSHUA GORE.** Among the worthy and representative citizens of Spring Creek Precinct, and as such especially worthy a place in a volume of this description, is the subject of this writing, who is the owner of a splendid farm of 160 acres, situated on section 9, township 6, range 12 east. The birth of our subject occurred at Taylorsville, Spencer Co., Ky., on the 14th of June, 1829. He is the son of Rector and Amanda Gore, both of whom were born in Kentucky.

The father of our subject was married three times, and became the father of ten children, five of whom survive, viz.: Joshua, John, Mildred, Cassia and Orville, the three latter residing in California. The father died in the year 1859. The mother of Joshua and John, who was his first wife, departed this life when our subject was about six years of age. After that event he made his home

with his grandfather, David Graff, with whom he went to Morgan County, Ill., upon that gentleman locating there. He was numbered among the pioneers of that county, and continued there until his death.

The education of our subject was acquired in the schools of Morgan County, Ill., and when not thus engaged he was working on the farm. At the age of eighteen he began to learn the blacksmith trade, and continued to follow the same for about six years, since which time he has been continuously engaged in farming. He was united in marriage with Priscilla Shuff, near Jacksonville, Morgan County, Feb. 11, 1852. This lady was born near Berlin, Sangamon Co., Ill., on the 9th of November, 1834, and is the daughter of John and Angelina Shuff. Her parents were both Kentuckians. To our subject and wife have been born ten children, three of whom now live. These bear the following names: George H., William E. and Mattie E. Those deceased are: Eva B., John R., James H., Edwin V., Clara B., Susan L. and Angelina.

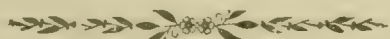
After his marriage our subject continued to live in Morgan County, working at his trade, with which he linked farming pursuits. Later, in 1854, he removed to Cass County, remaining until the year 1861, when he went to Menard County, living there until 1884, when he came to this county, settling upon his present farm, which he has brought to a very perfect state of cultivation and fertility, and which yields him under all ordinary circumstances a large return for the labor that is bestowed upon it.

The parents of Mrs. Gore had ten children, of whom the following are living: Priscilla; John R., of Hodgeman County, Kan.; Ira, of Waverly, Ill.; Mary H., the wife of Alphonso White, of Hoxie, Ark.; Jesse L., who is in Nemaha County; Emma J., now Mrs. Joseph Smith, of the same county; Steven O. and Cynthia, both of Morgan County; and William, of Kansas City, Mo.

Our subject and his devoted wife have passed the years of their companionship most happily in the oneness that makes such companionship desirable and helpful. Both are members and take an active interest in the Christian Church, of which our subject is an Elder. Politically, he is a member of the



Republican party, and as such is energetic in the interests of the party when occasion demands. He is a man of high character and personal worth, a public-spirited and much valued citizen.



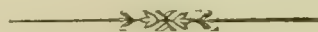
**G**RANT C. CATHCART is owner of eighty acres of prime land on section 17 in Spring Creek Precinct, where he has diligently labored since the spring of 1877. He is comparatively young in years, having been born July 18, 1851, and possesses in common with the men around him the industry and perseverance necessary to success. He comes of a good family, being the son of Robert and Catherine (Marshall) Cathcart, who were natives of Pennsylvania, and the father is now deceased.

The Cathcart family is of Irish ancestry, while the mother of our subject traced her descent to Scotland and Germany. The paternal grandfather crossed the Atlantic in time to do good service in the Revolutionary War, and spent his last years in Pennsylvania. Of the ten children born to the parents of our subject five survive, namely: Jennie, the wife of John Cobb, of Pocahontas County, Iowa; Samuel B., a resident of Hutchinson, Kan.; James A., of Harvey County, that State; Perry, in Hutchinson, and Grant C., of our sketch.

Robert Cathcart served as a soldier in the Union Army during the late Civil War, and died in April, 1863, at Memphis, Tenn., the result of hardship and exposure, he having been of strong constitution naturally. Prior to this, however, the parents, when Grant C. was a child five years of age, had removed to Rock Island County, Ill., where our subject was reared to manhood mostly on a farm. He was given a practical education in the common schools, and when ready to establish a home and domestic ties of his own, was married, Sept. 28, 1876, in Red Oak, Iowa, to Miss Lena Cantrall.

The wife of our subject was born in Whiteside County, Ill., Oct. 2, 1859, and is the daughter of John and Ellen (Straton) Cantrall, who were natives of Illinois and Vermont, and are now residents of Montgomery County, Iowa. To Mr. and Mrs. Cathcart there have been born five children, four

of whom are living, namely: Alice, Ruth, Robert and Grace. In the spring of 1876 our subject came with his family to Nebraska, sojourning near Brock until the spring of that year, when they took up their residence in this county, and Mr. Cathcart began working as a farm laborer in what is now Vesta Precinct. Two years later he moved to Nemaha County, where he lived about seven years, operating mostly on rented land. From there he came to his present homestead, which was comparatively unimproved, and where, with the stimulus of ownership, he has labored to good advantage. His possessions are the result of his own perseverance and industry, and his career is watched with kindly interest by many friends, who bespeak for him entire success and a competence for the future. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and has served as School Director in his district, while lending his influence to those enterprises calculated to advance the welfare of his community. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**S**OLON BACON. One of the finest farms in Vesta Precinct is owned and operated by the subject of this biography, who possesses the characteristics of industry and perseverance in a marked degree. He has good improvements, is out of debt, and thus should realize much enjoyment as a consequence. He is essentially a Western man, having been born in Marion County, Iowa, Sept. 17, 1857. His father, Daniel Bacon, now deceased, was a native of Illinois, and spent his last years in Harper County, Kan., where his death took place April 14, 1888. The family is of English ancestry and traced their descent from Lord Bacon, three of whose nephews crossed the Atlantic, it is believed, prior to the Revolutionary War, and settled in Massachusetts. One of these invented a torpedo which exploded upon pressure. In order to carry out an experiment with his invention, he laid one under a large rock, but failing of the desired result, he stepped upon the torpedo and was blown to atoms. The fragments of the body were gathered up by the two brothers and

buried. One of these was the great-grandfather of our subject, and from them sprang the Bacons of America. The individual who met with this violent death was unmarried.

The mother of our subject was in her girlhood Miss Elizabeth Nole; she was a native of Ohio, and is a resident of Kansas. The parental household included eleven children, nine of whom are now living. Solon, our subject, acquired a common-school education in his native county, and at an early age became familiar with farm pursuits. He accompanied his parents to Page County, Iowa, in 1868, when a lad of eleven years, and twelve years later made his way to this county, settling in April, 1880, upon the land which he now owns and occupies. He was accompanied to this place by his young wife, having married, March 27, 1880, Miss Elvora Davis, who was born in Jay County, Ind., Oct. 18, 1859. Mrs. Bacon is the daughter of William and Ellen (Woten) Davis, the father deceased and the mother now a resident of Page County, Iowa. Her parents were natives of Indiana and Missouri respectively, and their household included seven children.

To Mr. and Mrs. Bacon there have been born three children—Ora, Guy and Ona. The eldest is six years old and youngest ten months. Marshall Bacon, the elder brother of our subject, served as a Union soldier in the Civil War under command of Gen. John A. Logan. He is now engaged in farming in Gage County, Neb. Mr. Bacon, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, but has carefully refrained from the cares and responsibilities of office, preferring to give his time and attention to his farming interests.



**JOHN E. BROWN.** The subject of this sketch and his estimable wife represent property to the amount of a half-section of land in Helena Precinct, and have their pleasant and comfortable home on section 9. Of New England ancestry, Mr. Brown is a Western man by birth, his native place having been Aurora, Ill., where he first opened his eyes to the light April 18, 1838.

The parents of our subject were Richard D. and

Charity E. (Rowe) Brown, the father a native of New Hampshire and of English ancestry. He was reared in the Dominion of Canada, but came over into the States, and subsequently made his way to Nebraska Territory, settling among the earliest pioneers of this county. The year following he was joined by our subject, who came in July, 1858. The father died in Helena Precinct, March 12, 1879.

Mrs. Charity E. Brown was born in New York, and traced her ancestry to Germany. The parents were married in New York, passing their wedded life in Illinois and Nebraska. Their union was completed by the birth of six children: John E.; James, who died when six months old; Phebe A., the wife of Delos Rogers, of Fremont County, Iowa; Charles J., a resident of Central City, Neb.; Josephine, Mrs. O. K. Rogers, of Otoe County, and Eveline, Mrs. S. S. Saunders, of Antelope County.

The subject of this sketch, upon coming to Nebraska Territory, homesteaded eighty acres of land on the south half of the southwest quarter of section 9, and commenced in earnest his battle with the primitive soil. Over a wide stretch of country there was little to be seen indicating the presence of a white man, his neighbors being few and far between. He still owns and occupies the property which he then secured, although having doubled its original area. The year following he was married, June 26, 1859, and took up his residence with his bride in Helena Precinct.

Mrs. Brown, before her marriage with our subject, was Mrs. Marietta Campbell, the widow of W. A. Campbell, and the daughter of Charles and Rhoda Philpott. She was born June 5, 1833, in Kentucky. Her father was a native of Louisville, Ky.; after marriage he moved to Carroll County, Ohio. He was a tailor by occupation, and spent his last years in Ohio. The mother of Mrs. Brown died when she was quite young, and she was reared by her step-mother. She was married to Mr. Campbell in Ohio, and they resided for a time in Scott County, Iowa, whence they came to Nebraska Territory in the fall of 1856, and settled on the land which now comprises the homestead of Mr. and Mrs. Brown. Of her union with Mr. C. there were born two children, one of whom died at birth. Her son Jesse J. is a



resident of Keith County, this State. Mr. Campbell departed this life at his home in Helena Precinct, in August, 1858.

Mrs. Brown was one of the first white women in her neighborhood, and obtained an intimate acquaintance with the difficulties and hardships of life in a new settlement. She labored hand in hand with her husband in building up the homestead, fulfilling her duties as a pioneer wife and mother in the most admirable manner. Of her union with Mr. Brown there were born three children: Charles H., in Keith County; Mary E., the wife of Dr. T. C. Canine, a practicing physician of Shickley, this State, and Calvin E., who lives at home.

Mr. Brown received only a limited education in his youth, but has been a reader all his life and kept himself posted upon current events. Both he and his estimable wife have watched with the warmest interest the growth and development of Nebraska, and in the building up of one of its most desirable homesteads have contributed in no small degree to its reputation as a prosperous commonwealth. The farm is in a highly cultivated condition, and supplied with good buildings. Mr. Brown has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as Constable for a time, and has been a member of the School Board of his district a number of years.

Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, and has always been a member of the Republican party. He is a strong advocate of temperance, and for a period of four years was Worthy Chief of a lodge of Good Templars in Helena Precinct, which was suspended some time ago.



**ISAAC IRWIN.** Among the pioneers of Johnson County, who to-day occupy honored positions in the community, is the gentleman whose biography is herein sketched. His property is situated on section 4, of Nemaha Precinct, where he owns a first-class farm comprising 120 acres. Mr. Irwin first came to this county in July of the year 1867, and soon determined to settle in Todd Creek Precinct, and accordingly took up a homestead claim of 160 acres. This he improved,

putting up a good set of farm buildings, fences, etc., first selling eighty acres to Mr. Bartle, retaining 120 acres until the year 1880, when he sold that in order to remove to his present property, which had a little breaking done to it, but which has been practically improved entirely by himself.

Our subject takes pride in his stock, which is indeed quite good. His herds number about seventy-five head, and he requires nearly everything he raises for their feed. He is also engaged in the breeding of horses extensively, and owns seven head, which are chiefly of the best variety.

Mr. Irwin remembers perfectly the first settlement made in the county, by his namesake and nephew, Isaac Irwin, Jr., who settled on section 3, in Nemaha Precinct, in 1859. He built the first house and made the first improvements perfected in the county. Rowan Irwin, brother of our subject, was with him, and became one of the early settlers of the county. The same year Mr. Rigal settled, and for a time all camped together.

The subject of our sketch was born in Hardin County, Ky., on the 19th of April, 1817, and lived there for about thirteen years. Then accompanying his parents in their journeying to Putnam County, Ind., he finished his education in the common schools, which, although not extensive, was thoroughly practical. After leaving the school he remained with his father upon the farm until he was about twenty-seven years old. About that time his father died, and he continued upon the same farm until after the death of his mother, which occurred in 1856. After that event he sold the farm and came to this State, as noted above.

In Putnam County, Ind., Dec. 21, 1844, Mr. Irwin was united in marriage with Miss Maria Brittan, of Indiana, who bore him four children, of whom three are living. Their names are as follows: Christian, Sarah and Susan. Newport, a son, died when twenty-two years old. Mrs. Irwin was the daughter of John Brittan, who was a farmer of Putnam County, Ind. She died after a wedded life of about seven years, on the 25th of March, 1851.

The second marriage of our subject was celebrated on the 19th of April, 1852, the lady of his choice being Miss Jane Leathermann. Of this union there



have been born thirteen children, of whom eleven are still living. Their names are recorded as follows: Maria, Mary, Smiley, Washington, Cicely, Rowan, Frances, John, Lavona, Nora and Isaac. Fourteen children in all are still living.

Mrs. Irwin was born in Putnam County, Ind. She is the daughter of John and Mary Leathermann, also of Putnam County. Her father was a native of Kentucky, and by occupation a farmer. He died in the year 1880, at the age of seventy-five years, his wife having died about four years before him; she was four years older than he.

The eldest daughter of our subject, Christian, is happily married to Mr. John Ball, who is now in Tulare County, Cal., and they are the parents of eight children; Sarah is married to Mr. Wallace Averett, a prosperous farmer on section 4, Todd Creek Precinct; they have three little ones, whose names are as follows: Clara, Othe and Maud. Susan is now Mrs. William Burlington, and resides in California; they have one child, whose name is Isaac.

Of the daughters of his second marriage, Maria was the wife of Thomas Reynolds, of Tulare County, Cal.; her husband died in 1885, leaving her with four children, whose names are: Mabel, Arthur, Porter and Bessie. Frances married William Will, of Pawnee County, and they have one son, who bears the name of John; Rowan is married and living in California; he is a prominent lawyer. The remainder of the children are unmarried.

Isaac Irwin, the father of our subject, was born in Virginia, and when a young man accompanied his father when he removed to Nelson County, Ky. There he met and married Miss Ellen King. There were born to them eleven children, nine of whom lived to attain years of discretion. Subsequently he removed to Hardin County, where he lived until he was fifty years old, then went to Putnam County, Ind. There he lived until his death, which occurred when he was eighty-four years of age. This event occurred just before our subject came to this State. Mr. Irwin followed agricultural pursuits nearly all his life. He was frequently called upon to fill various offices, and is one of the prominent citizens of his district. The grandfather of our subject, John Irwin, was the first member of

this family to leave the old English home for the New World. He settled first in Virginia, afterward removing as above noted to Kentucky, where he died in Nelson County about the year 1818.

The subject of this sketch is a member of the Predestinarian Baptist Church, and is an ordained minister of the communion, and has preached for many years in Kansas and this State. He is an able and much valued citizen, much respected by all who know him, and looked up to by very many as one of the capable and educated men of the district. When in Indiana he served as Justice of the Peace for some time, and in this State has held the office of School Director. He is deeply interested in all questions that concern the American people, and usually votes with the Democratic party.



**J**OHAN E. McDANNOLD. In the northwestern part of Nemaha Precinct, and situated upon section 4, is a well-cultivated farm of eighty acres, which is not infrequently the occasion of remark and favorable comment from visitors and strangers in the neighborhood. It is the property of the subject of this sketch, who is certainly a thoroughly practical and enterprising agriculturist. He was born in Henry County, Mo., on the 30th of October, 1854, and lived there about three years, then accompanied his parents to Springfield, Ill., living with them upon various farms in the county until 1884.

From the time of attaining his majority the subject of our sketch had been farming upon his own account in the above district. His coming to Nebraska dates from 1884, since which time he has labored earnestly and indefatigably to make his farm in every regard a model, with most gratifying success. His dwelling is conveniently and comfortably arranged, and its site well selected. At least three acres are devoted to the orchard and fruit culture, and there may be found a large variety requiring special culture, in addition to those indigenous to the country and climate. Such fruits as apples, apricots, peaches and cherries are found in endless profusion. The remainder of his

farm is attentively looked after and well worked, and is equally responsive to his efforts.

In Miss Ella Baldwin, of Sangamon County, Ill., our subject conceived that he had found the one who alone could make his life and home complete, and their marriage was celebrated upon the 2d of December, 1884. Their union has been more firmly welded, and the happiness of their home more assured, by the birth of their daughter, whose name is Nellie. Mrs. McDannold was born on the 28th of February, 1860, and is the daughter of William and Mary (Parkinson) Baldwin. Her father, a native of Sangamon County, followed the pursuits of husbandry from his youth, and was known as an enterprising farmer.

Mr. and Mrs. McDannold are earnest and efficient members of the Christian Church, of Tecumseh, and highly respected in the community at large, as they are in the religious circle. The father of our subject, Reuben McDannold, was a native of Bourbon County, Ky.; the date of his nativity is recorded as the 12th of February, 1831. When three years of age he was taken by his parents to Sangamon County, upon their migration thitherward. In 1849 he went overland from St. Joseph to California, accomplishing the journey in ninety days, then considered a very quick trip. There he remained four years, enjoying success beyond the average. Returning, he settled in Springfield, and engaged in the lumber business for a time, and then went to Missouri. He was the husband of Ann E. Dillon, to whom he was married on the 20th of October, 1853. Of the nine children born to them, it was their privilege to see six arrive at years of maturity. After three years in Missouri, Sangamon County again became their home, and continues to be. They are very devout members of the Church of the Disciples, at Springfield, and enjoy the respect of all who know them, by reason of their high Christian character, and also their social position.

The subject of our sketch is a man who has made his way in the world as the result of laudable ambition, supplemented by intelligent endeavor. His character is of a high order, both demanding and gaining the esteem of his fellows. In the domestic and other relations of life, although perhaps

not faultless, his endeavor is to approximate to that most desired plan of life; in society he is genial, courteous and affable, and enjoys considerable popularity.

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**W**ALTER E. SANDIFER. The city of Tecumseh has, in the gentleman whose history it is endeavored succinctly, and yet clearly, to set forth in the following lines, a worthy representative, and one who is progressive, enterprising and capable as a business man. He was born in Carrollton, Ky., on the 16th of September, 1864. He received as good an education as was possible to be obtained at that place, supplementing it by a course of instruction at the William Jewell College, at Liberty, Mo. After graduation from that institution he went into the drug business at Whiteman, Mo., where he remained for two years, carrying on quite a remunerative establishment.

Leaving Missouri, our subject went to Ft. Worth, Tex., where he engaged as a clerk for three years, during which time he obtained a thorough knowledge of the drug trade in its various departments, and became an expert prescriptionist. In the spring of 1883 he came to Tecumseh and bought a partnership with Mr. Glass. After about eighteen months he bought out a stock of drugs and moved into his present fine brick store, which is so admirably arranged for his business, having been especially designed to be adapted thereto. He has, perhaps, the finest drug-store in the city. It is situated on the corner of Third and Clay streets, having been for some five years located at the present place. He has become firmly established, and enjoys a very extensive patronage.

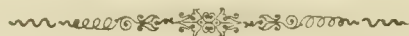
The father of our subject, J. W. Sandifer, was born in Odenburg, Ky., and was one of the enterprising and prosperous dry-goods merchants of Graham, Mo. His early life was mostly spent in Carrollton, Ky. He was married to Allie Dougherty, who presented him with four children, of whom the subject of this sketch was the second child born. He was both Councilman and Mayor of the city, but was reticent in the matter of politics, although always cheerfully doing his duty as a citizen. He died at Ft. Worth, Tex., in Feb-



ruary, 1883, having been bereaved of his wife since the year 1868, when our subject was but four years of age. He was a Mason of the Royal Arch, and as such had filled various offices in the fraternity.

The grandfather of our subject, Robert Dougherty, was one of the prominent men of Carrollton, Ky., which was his home. He was an extensive farmer, and very successful. The family of which he was a member is one of the old families of the State, and representative of the best people connected therewith.

As will be noticed, the subject of this sketch is quite a young man, being but twenty-four years of age. He has, therefore, almost the best part of his life before him, and without doubt, arguing from that which is seen to that which is not seen, the result will be worthy of the past and of his family. He is very highly spoken of, and in matters of business is of strictest integrity. He is the leader of the Tecumseh military band, and is quite popular there. In political matters he is in harmony with the principles of the Democratic party, and takes much interest therein. He has one sister living, Miss Minnie Sandifer. She is the only member of his family left him, and makes her home with her brother.



JAMES HENRY, of Lincoln Precinct, is one of the early pioneers of Johnson County, and also one of the valued citizens and successful farmers of the county. His residence is upon his farm on section 36, township 5 north, range 11 east, which comprises eighty acres of first-class land. He was born in New York City on the 10th of May, 1849, but was left an orphan while yet an infant, and was brought up in the New York City Orphan Asylum until he was eight years of age, when he was taken to Mason County, Ill., and bound out to a farmer, remaining with him some eight years.

On the 11th of January, 1864, the subject of our sketch enlisted in Company A, of the 28th Illinois Infantry. Being sent to the front he saw considerable service and participated in the capture of Spanish Fort, the key to Mobile. He did duty princi-

pally from Cairo down the Mississippi and into Texas, and was honorably discharged on the 14th of July, 1865, only to re-enlist the same month in the regular army, continuing in the service for three years, during which time he did duty at Ft. Hamilton, N. Y., and Brownsville, Tex., and was also with the troops sent to the Canada side with a view of capturing the Fenians during the Fenian raid.

In the spring of 1869 Mr. Henry came to Nebraska, and for a time worked around on different farms, and also did some buffalo hunting, finally purchasing his present property of eighty acres and settling upon it. He was not easily daunted by difficulties and hardships, but it was only by dint of long-continued effort and patient perseverance that he finally made it the good farm it is to-day.

On the 24th of January, 1875, our subject was united in marriage, the lady of his choice being Caroline S. Webb, who was born on the 11th of November, 1856, in Waukesha County, Wis. Mrs. Henry is the daughter of James and Eliza Webb, who reside in Todd Creek Precinct of this county. Her father is a native of England; her mother is reputed to be the second white child born in the city of Milwaukee. Her father came to this country when about eight years of age, and has been in the country over forty years. She was the eldest child of five born to her parents. Their names are given as follows: Caroline S., Walker, Della, Ida and Bertha.

Mr. Webb is a staunch and old friend of the Republican party, and in the late Civil War served for three years, in that time taking part in many engagements. He came to this county twenty-two years ago, being one of the pioneers, and having his full share of the usual troubles to meet and difficulties to overcome. To Mr. and Mrs. Henry there have come three children, whom we name as follows: Roy E. was born July 22, 1876; Nora B., June 24, 1878, and Myrl E., Aug. 16, 1887.

Our subject with greatest possible credit to himself from such an unpromising beginning has come to occupy his present position as a valued and respected member of the community. He has served his school district for six years as Director. In the G. A. R. he is an enthusiastic member.



Politically, he is an affiliate of the Republican party, and in church matters is, with his wife, an active, energetic member of the Baptist communion. They are among the recognized interested working members.

THOMPSON M. PATTON, one of the younger members of the farming community of Center Precinct, was born in Monroe County, W. Va., Feb. 3, 1853, and was reared and educated in the district schools. He crossed the Mississippi when a youth of nineteen years, taking up his abode in Iowa County, Iowa, where, with the exception of a year spent in Virginia, he resided for a period of ten years. Thence in the spring of 1882 he came to this county, and located on the land on section 7, from which he has eliminated a farm in which he may justly take pride. The industry with which he has labored is indicated in the convenient buildings, the neat and substantial fences, and the facilities for watering stock evinced in the large and handsome windmill which was put up at considerable expense in the fall of 1887. The larger part of the ground has been stirred by the plowshare, and Mr. Patton has sown grass seed for both hay and pasture. He has a fine start toward a competence, and ranks among the most enterprising men of his precinct.

While a resident of the Hawkeye State Mr. Patton was married, in Iowa County, Oct. 30, 1879, to Miss Jennie Koller. Mrs. Patton was born Feb. 9, 1861, in Iowa County, Iowa, and is the daughter of John and Virginia (Skegs) Koller, who were natives of Switzerland and West Virginia. They came from Iowa to this county in the spring of 1880. The father was a farmer by occupation, and died at his home in Western Precinct, in January, 1888. The mother is still living, and resides near Crab Orchard. Mr. Patton, in addition to general farming, is greatly interested in stock-raising, and has a goodly herd of Short-horn and Durham cattle besides Poland-China swine. His property is free from incumbrance, and he has at least \$1,500 worth of stock and chattels. He has officiated as Clerk of Center Precinct since 1887, and politically, votes the

straight Democratic ticket. About 1877, while a resident of Iowa, he identified himself with the A. F. & A. M., and is still warmly interested in and a brave defender of the doctrines of the fraternity.

Robert A. Patton, the father of our subject, in early manhood was married to Miss Emily Nickell, and is still living in Virginia. They became the parents of two children, and the mother died when her son Thompson M. was about five years of age. He received about \$1,000 from his mother's estate, which he invested in a wise and judicious manner. Before receiving this he had been thrown upon his own resources since a mere lad, chiefly looking out for himself. That spirit of self-reliance which was then formed within him has aided greatly in his later successes. He is ranked among the solid men of Center Precinct, one who, if spared, will leave his mark in the community where he resides.

HENRY HOWARTH, a leading land-owner of Spring Creek Precinct, possesses the warranty deed to 960 acres lying mostly in the above precinct, and has a span of valuable Hambletonian horses, together with other fine stock, in which industry he has been remarkably successful. Upon coming to this county, in the fall of 1873, he purchased a half-section of land for the sum of \$2,300, and gradually added to his possessions to the extent named. He is a self-made man in the strictest sense of the word, being the architect of his own fortune and from the first dependent upon his own exertions.

A native of the town of Blackburn, Lancashire, England, our subject was born Feb. 24, 1844, and is the son of John W. and Alice (Abbott) Howarth, who were also of English birth and ancestry. The mother died about 1880, in Mason County, Ill., and three children of the family are living, namely: William, a resident of Illinois; Elizabeth, living in Illinois, and our subject.

In the spring of 1847, John Howarth, bidding adieu to his friends and associations in Old England, started with his family for America, embarking on a sailing-vessel and landing in the city of New Orleans several weeks later. Thence they

came up the Mississippi River to Illinois and settled in Mason County, where the father purchased eighty acres of land at \$1.25 per acre. He then commenced in earnest his struggle upon the uncultivated prairie, and by untiring industry, economy and perseverance, in due time built up a comfortable homestead and became the owner of a large estate. He was born in 1812, and is still living, being now well advanced in years. He acquitted himself during the active years of his life as a useful and public-spirited citizen, ever ready to encourage the worthy enterprises calculated for the general good, and became thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country. In his declining years he is surrounded by all life's comforts, including hosts of friends. He is a well-educated man, having attended school in the city of London for a number of years.

Receiving but a limited education, our subject spent his early years in the Prairie State, assisting in the development of the farm, and was a youth seventeen years of age at the outbreak of the Civil War. The year following he proffered his services as a Union soldier, enlisting Aug. 9, 1862, at Peoria, Ill., in Company D, 85th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the army of Gen. Sherman, the corps Commander being at that time Gen. Thomas. Company D for a time operated as sharpshooters, and young Howarth participated in many of the important battles of the war, meeting the enemy at Peachtree Creek, Mission Ridge, the sieges of Knoxville and Atlanta, and at the latter place received a wound in his left arm, Sept. 1, 1864. He was confined in the hospital some months, not being able to fight any more, and received an honorable discharge May 20, 1865.

Mr. Howarth after having been transferred from a soldier into a civilian returned to his old haunts in Illinois, and resumed farming with his father until his marriage, which took place June 20, 1867. The maiden of his choice was Miss Rebecca J. Sisson, who was born Feb. 11, 1848, in Illinois, and is the daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Jones) Sisson. The father spent his last years in Illinois; the mother resides in Mason County, Ill. Mr. and Mrs. Howarth spent the first five years of

their wedded life in Mason County, Ill., and then moved, in the fall of 1872, to Faribault County, Minn. Mr. Howarth there occupied himself at farming until the fall of 1873, then turned his steps southward and purchased a half-section of land in this county, where his interests have since centered.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born ten children, seven of whom are living, viz: John H., William F., Elizabeth A., Bessie A., Charles E., Barbara A. and James L. With the exception of five years spent in Tecumseh, where he was engaged as a stock-dealer, Mr. Howarth has been a resident of Spring Creek Precinct since coming to this county. He is a staunch Democrat, politically, and socially, belongs to Little Phil Post No. 270, G. A. R., at Tecumseh. During the summer of 1886 he crossed the Atlantic and visited the scenes of his childhood and youth, making the voyage in a much speedier and more comfortable manner than that which distinguished his first experience as a trans-Atlantic traveler. A true patriot, he hastened back in time for the November elections.

**H**ON. WASHINGTON ROBB is widely and favorably known throughout Johnson County as a man having borne no unimportant part in its growth and development, socially, morally and financially. He is the owner of a fine estate which mostly consists of valuable farm property, comprising 200 acres of land with the homestead located on section 8, in Spring Creek Precinct. The essential points in a career of more than ordinary interest are as follows:

Mr. Robb was born in Warren County, Ind., May 4, 1837, and is the son of Robert and Mary A. (Russell) Robb, the former a native of Kentucky, but reared in Ohio, and the mother a native of the town of Chillicothe, the latter State. The Robb family is of Scotch ancestry, while the Russells traced their descent to England. Thomas Robb, the paternal grandfather of our subject, carried a musket in the War of 1812, and spent his



last years in DeKalb County, Ill. The great-grandfather was born in Scotland, and upon emigrating to America early in life settled in Mercer County, Pa., from which branch of the family sprang all the Robbs of America.

The subject of this sketch was the eldest in a family of seven children, five of whom are living, namely: Thomas, of Tecumseh, this State; Lawrence, a resident of Johnson County; Elizabeth E., the wife of James Robbins, of Tecumseh, Neb.; Rebecca J., Mrs. W. G. Swan, of Auburn, and Washington, our subject. The latter was the eldest of the family, and was three years old when his parents removed from Ohio to DeKalb County, Ill. The father secured a tract of land in that county, and there our subject was reared to manhood, receiving a fair education in the common schools.

When a youth of eighteen years Mr. Robb became a student of Rock River Seminary in Ogle County, where he closely applied himself to study one year, and upon leaving the college commenced teaching. In the spring of 1859, desirous of seeing the country west of the Mississippi, he made his way to Pike's Peak, where he sojourned about six months, and occupied himself at mining. Thence he went into Hamilton County, Mo., where he taught school seven months, and thereafter was occupied at farming until the outbreak of the Civil War.

On the 27th of July, 1862, Mr. Robb enlisted as a Union soldier in Company G, 95th Illinois Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles of the war, being at the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Nashville, and in the Mobile campaign. He was chiefly assigned to detached service, as a clerk in the various adjutant offices, and remained in the army until after the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge in Springfield, Ill., in October, 1865.

In the fall of the year above mentioned Mr. Robb wended his way to Nebraska Territory, and at once homesteaded 160 acres of land in Spring Creek Precinct, this county. He settled upon it before a furrow had been turned, and began as best he could its improvement and cultivation, in the meantime employing the winter months as a teacher, farming and teaching alternately since that time

until about two years since. He has been a man of great energy and perseverance, and, as may be supposed, has had his mind and hands full with his farming interests and his duties as a public instructor. He bears the distinction of being the pioneer pedagogue of this county, and probably there are few living now in the county who taught school within its limits before Nebraska was admitted into the Union as a State.

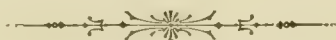
The subject of our sketch was married, Jan. 1, 1868, in DeKalb County, Ill., to Miss Amelia Gault. This lady was born Oct. 27, 1844, in DeKalb County, Ill., and is the daughter of William and Emeline (Shattuck) Gault, the former a native of Ohio, and the mother of New York State. The Gault family is of Scotch ancestry, while the mother of our subject traced her descent to England. Mr. Gault settled in Illinois during its pioneer days, and subsequently fought in the Black Hawk War. He and his estimable wife spent their last years in DeKalb County, Ill.

Mr. and Mrs. Robb commenced the journey of life together at the farm which they now own and occupy, which it is hardly necessary to state bore at that date little resemblance to its present condition. Of their union there have been born eight children, who are recorded as follows: Avery D. is a student in the Normal School at Peru; Robert E. died when about eighteen years old; Joy W., Earl G., Lura, Fred L., Harry H. and Russell R. are at home with their parents. Mr. Robb has been prominent in the affairs of his county and precinct, serving as Assessor five years, and officiated one term as Justice of the Peace. He has been a member of the School Board of his district for a period of twenty years. There have been few worthy enterprises which he has not fostered and encouraged. In November, 1887, he was made the nominee of the Republican party in his district for the State Legislature to fill a vacancy, and at the expiration of this term was regularly re-elected in November, 1888. Socially, he belongs to Post No. 104, G. A. R., at Talmage, in Otse County. He has always taken a warm interest in the order, filling various offices.

Mrs. Robb is a most estimable and intelligent lady in all respects, both by training and edu-



cation the suitable partner of her husband. She likewise was employed as a teacher fifteen terms in succession, mostly in DeKalb County, Ill., but also taught in Boone County, that State, and in Bremer County, Iowa.



WILLIAM WALLACE JOBES, who is one of the prominent farmers and stock-raisers of Todd Creek Precinct, has been identified with the county since the days of the pioneer. He owns an extensive and productive farm on section 20, comprising 160 acres. He was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., on the 28th of January, 1831. When he was five years of age his parents removed to Erie County, in the same State, where he was brought up and made his home until he attained his majority, receiving his education in the schools of that county, and also making other preparations that would enable him to fill his place in life. Leaving home, he went to Buffalo, where he became a clerk in a store, remaining there five years, when he left to go west into Illinois, and for a time was engaged in the city of Chicago. Afterward he went to Knox County, Ill., and engaged in farming, continuing in the same until Aug. 11, 1862, when he enlisted.

Our subject served in Company G, 83d Illinois Infantry, which regiment became part of the Army of the Cumberland. For three years he served in all the campaigns in which that division of the Union forces engaged. In the fall of 1863 he met with an accident, by which his ankle was broken. After his recovery he carried mail for the army until he was discharged, on the 24th of June, 1865, at the conclusion of hostilities. He then returned to Knox County and continued his farming until he removed to Mercer County, where he lived for five years, and then sold out and removed to his present place in December, 1875. Purchasing it in the latter part of February of the following year, he took up his permanent residence on the 4th of March.

All the improvements made by our subject upon his property are his own work. He now has about ten acres of forest trees, also a good apple orchard,

which, in addition, contains all the usual small fruits. He built his present residence, which would be a credit to a much more pretentious farm, in the year 1884. The same year he put up a windmill, and effected several other very important improvements. He has a hedge all around his farm, which he takes pride in keeping in nice trim and shape. He also keeps a very fine herd of cattle, and has a somewhat extensive dairy.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Amanda Buffum, of Knox County, Ill., on the 29th of December, 1870, of which union there have been born six children, of whom four are still living. These bear the names appended below: Willie, Lizzie, Jay and Nettie. They have also living with them a niece, Miss Olive A. Stevens, of Yates City, Knox Co., Ill. Their children are all at home, laying up in the matter of education a store of knowledge that shall serve in future days.

The wife of our subject was born in Knox County, Ill., on the 29th of August, 1841. She is a daughter of Stephen and Ester Buffum, one of the pioneer families of that county, having settled there in 1835. Their daughter lived with them until her marriage. The maiden name of Mrs. Buffum was Ester Mann, and she was born at Ashtabula, Ohio. They became the parents of eight children. Mr. Buffum died in the year 1871, aged sixty-nine years; his wife departed this life in 1815.

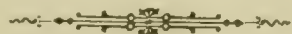
The father of our subject, James Jobes, was born on the 2d of May, 1808, in the State of New York. There, as a young man, he married Miss Jeanette Candee. Their family circle included ten children, of whom eight are still living. He went to Onondaga County, and thence to Holland Purchase, Erie County, N. Y. In 1855 he went to Kendall County, Ill., and from there to Knox County, then moved to Mercer County, and then back to Knox County, where he still lives, in Summit Station, twenty miles from Galesburg. In politics he was an "old-time" Whig, but has been a Republican for many years.

The mother of our subject is the daughter of Eber Candee, of New York. She was born in Connecticut, Jan. 18, 1810, and went to New York

with her parents when she was young. She is now seventy-eight years of age, and makes her home at Summit, Ill.

James Jobes, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Connecticut, and when still a young man migrated to Pompey, N. Y., where he bought and improved a farm, upon which he lived until his death. He was united in marriage with Miss Melvina Prine (now spelt Pryne), and they became the parents of several children. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and for many years was esteemed one of its chief supports.

Our subject is one of the prominent citizens of his district, and is held in high esteem by his fellow-citizens. He is a man of honor, ability and success. He has been frequently called upon to fill different offices, and has usually voted with the Republican party. He was for a time Collector of the township. In every relation, office or undertaking, he has apparently been guided by the same high principle and sense of duty.



**F**RANKLIN TAYLOR. The pioneer element of Johnson County embraces no worthier representative of its early history than the subject of this sketch. He owns and occupies a good homestead on section 18, Todd Creek Precinct, his farm comprising 160 acres of land under a thorough state of cultivation. He has seen the country around develop from an unimproved prairie to the homesteads of an intelligent community, and no man has rejoiced more at the prosperity of his adopted State.

Our subject first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in February, 1868, the year after it had been converted from a Territory to a State. He was accompanied on his journey to this county by his wife, and they went to housekeeping in a rude structure, which has withstood the ravages of over twenty years, and which still remains standing on the southeast part of the farm.

Mr. Taylor, however, left this first place after occupying it eight months, and moved to the eastern part of the precinct, taking up his abode on section 6, where he purchased a tract of Govern-

ment land and commenced its improvement. Becoming homesick, however, a few months later, he returned to Illinois, and lived in Knox County on his farm until the fall of 1879. Then coming back to Nebraska he purchased first eighty acres of the farm which he now owns, and subsequently added thereto another eighty acres. This he has brought to a thorough state of cultivation, and upon it has erected good buildings and set out groves, which are needed upon every farm in this part of Nebraska. He now has nearly ten acres of solid forest, from six or eight years old to twenty years, and which constitutes a very valuable piece of timber. The present appearance of the land is widely different from what it was when Mr. Taylor first looked upon it, there being then nothing larger than a blade of grass. He has also planted an orchard of four acres, and around his dwelling are all kinds of the smaller fruit trees. These are all well developed and in good bearing condition, yielding each in their season most luscious fruits for the household.

The present residence of our subject is a substantial two-story frame structure, which was completed in the fall of 1880, and is finished in modern style, being both handsome and convenient. The farm fences are mostly of hedge and wire, giving to the premises an exceedingly neat appearance. Mr. Taylor of late years has given his attention mostly to live stock, and has taken a new departure somewhat from that of his neighbors, being largely engrossed in sheep-raising, keeping from 300 to 550 head. He also has a number of horses, and a goodly herd of cattle. His premises present the picture of the well-to-do and intelligent agriculturist, who makes hay while the sun shines, and neglects no opportunity to keep himself posted upon the matters pertaining to his calling.

A native of Knox County, Ill., our subject was born Dec. 17, 1840, and received a practical education in the common schools. He assisted his father in the labors of the farm, and lived at home until after the outbreak of the Civil War. On the 11th of August, 1862, he enlisted in defense of his country, in Company G, 83d Illinois Infantry, and served nearly three years, being mostly employed along the Cumberland River after the guerrillas, and gained a good insight into the privations and



hardships of army life. He fortunately escaped wounds and capture, and at the close of the war received his honorable discharge, July 5, 1865.

Mr. Taylor upon laying aside the implements of war returned to the peaceful pursuits of farm life in Knox County, Ill., where he lived until coming to Nebraska. In Knox County he was married to Miss Margaret Ann Stanton, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride, Oct. 10, 1866. Mrs. Taylor is the daughter of a prominent citizen of that county, whose history will be noted in a sketch of Michael Stanton, found elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there were born nine children, eight of whom are living, namely: Elsie A., Clifford M., Ira C., Katie L., Irene G., Floyd F., Lora and Edith. They are all at home with their parents, and form a remarkably intelligent and interesting group. They have been given a good practical education, and will in due time take their places in the community among its most honored citizens. Mr. Taylor votes the straight Democratic ticket, and has held the various local offices, serving as Collector, Commissioner, Assessor and School Director, until he refused to have his name again brought up as a nominee.

Andrew B. Taylor, the father of our subject, was born in New Jersey, Nov. 23, 1817, and when four years of age removed with his parents to Fairfield County, Ohio. He there lived until a youth of seventeen years, then took to the lakes and followed the water for a period of six years. Then migrating to Knox County, Ill., he engaged in farming, and there spent the remainder of his days. He was accidentally killed by the falling of a tree, in May, 1885, when about sixty-eight years old. He was a man prominent in his community and highly respected, holding the township offices, and positions of trust and responsibility. The wife and mother, Mrs. Philomela (Egan) Taylor, was born in Madison County, Ohio, in October, 1821, and lived there until her marriage. She was the daughter of Michael Egan, who spent his last years in Illinois. Of her union with Andrew Taylor there were born eight children, seven of whom lived to mature years. The mother passed away twenty years before the decease of her husband, her death taking place at the old homestead in Knox County, Ill., in Decem-

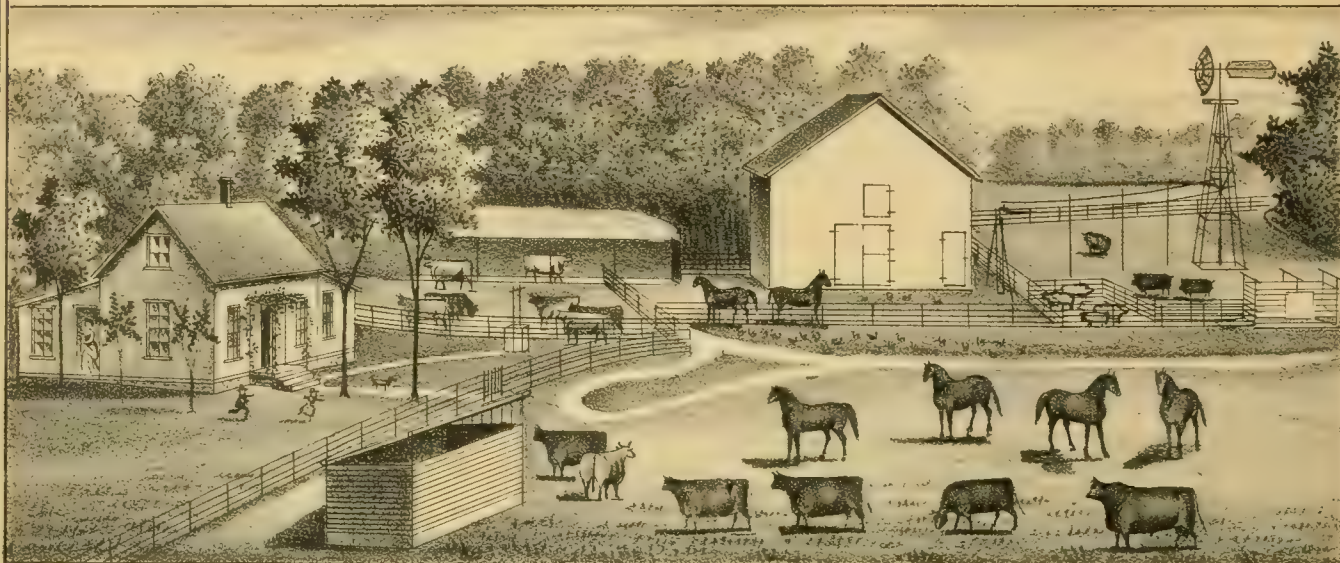
ber, 1865. Both were Universalists in religious belief. The paternal grandfather of our subject, also named Andrew Taylor, was a native of New York State, born in 1778, and migrated first to New Jersey and thence to Ohio, being one of the earliest pioneers of the Buckeye State. He was twice married, his last wife, from whom our subject is descended, being a Mrs. Bassett. He was a successful farmer, and built up for himself a good homestead out of the wilderness in Ohio. The last few years of his life were spent with his son Andrew, in Illinois, where his death took place in 1848.

THOMAS H. MATTHEWS, a prosperous farmer in good circumstances, and a resident of Spring Creek Precinct, came to Nebraska in the spring of 1880 with a capital of \$4 in his pocket. He located first in Nemaha County, and operated for two years on rented land. In the spring of 1882 he took possession of his present farm, on section 25, where his labors have been prospered, and where his perseverance and energy have gathered around him all the comforts of life and many of its luxuries. His farm is considered as among the finest in the county, and is a standing monument to his energy and resolution. He has effected many improvements since taking possession here, and is numbered among the leading men of his precinct, being held in the highest respect by all who know him.

Chester County, Pa., was the birthplace of our subject, where he first opened his eyes to the light March 14, 1836. His parents, William and Mary (Hannum) Matthews, were natives respectively of Maryland and Pennsylvania, and his paternal ancestors were of Irish descent. On his mother's side he traces his ancestry to Germany. The parental household consisted of fourteen children, seven of whom are living, namely: Ebenezer, of Fulton County, Ill.; Thomas H., our subject; Martha, the wife of Hartford Mershon, of this county; Ettie, Mrs. James Trickey, of Fulton County, Ill.; Jenette, now Mrs. Marshall, also in that county; Laura, the wife of George Hughes, and Scott, of Helena Precinct, this county. The parents removed







RESIDENCE OF J. E. BARRET , SEC.11. STERLING PRECINCT.



RESIDENCE OF E. A. BROWN, SEC. 6. (4-12) TODD CREEK PRECINCT.



from Pennsylvania, and settled in Fulton County, Ill., in the fall of 1843, being among its earliest pioneers. They are still living, the father now having attained his fourscore years, and the mother being seventy-seven. They make their home with their daughter, Mrs. Trickey, and are surrounded by hosts of warm friends whom they have gathered around them during their long residence in Fulton County, and where they have acquitted themselves as praiseworthy citizens. Both are members of the Presbyterian Church, and the father, politically, is a staunch Republican.

Our subject was reared to manhood amid the pioneer scenes of Fulton County, Ill., acquiring his education in its primitive schools, which were far inferior to those of the present day. He has, however, been a lifelong reader of books and newspapers, and has always kept himself well posted upon the important topics of the day. He was reared to farm life, which he has followed contentedly most of the time since starting out for himself.

Mr. Matthews remained a member of the parental household until September, 1858. When ready to establish a home of his own he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Sarah A. Holmes, to whom he was married in Fulton County, Ill., Sept. 30, 1858. Mrs. Matthews was born in Fulton County, Ill., Nov. 25, 1840, and is the daughter of Thomas and Rachel A. (Derry) Holmes, who were natives of Kentucky and Virginia, and the former of whom died in 1882, in Fulton County. The mother is with her son William in this county. The family included eight children, who are now in Arkansas, Nebraska and Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthews commenced the journey of life together in Fulton County, Ill., and Mr. M. engaged in farming until the spring of 1875. Then, in partnership with Mr. Hughes, of Fulton County, he engaged in the lumber business at Table Grove, Ill., they operating together about two years, under the firm title of Matthews & Derham. Our subject then purchased the interest of his partner in the business, and operated alone two years. Then selling out he engaged in the grocery trade at Table Grove, forming again a partnership with Mr. Hughes, and finally buy-

ing him out as before. Mr. Matthews conducted this business one year, but not meeting with the success he desired withdrew, and resolved to resume agricultural pursuits.

Our subject has met with good success on the soil of Nebraska, of which he has the highest opinion. His farm embraces 160 acres of good land with a substantial residence, a good barn, fruit and shade trees, and all the other things necessary for the comfort of himself and his family. The latter are as follows: Albert G.; Ella, Mrs. John A. Foley, in Decatur County, Kan., and John in Spring Creek Precinct, this county; Thomas E., Loey and Annie remain with their parents; Harry is deceased.

Mr. Matthews, politically, supports the principles of the Democratic party, and while a resident of Illinois was quite prominent in local affairs, officiating as School Director, and filling other positions of trust and responsibility. Both he and his estimable wife take an active interest in the projects calculated for the general welfare of their community, and are thus contributing their share toward the building up of one of the most prosperous precincts in Johnson County.

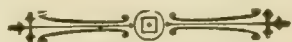
JOHN E. BARRET, of Sterling Precinct, is numbered among its solid and reliable men, and one whose industry and perseverance in building up a fine homestead have been crowned with success. He was born in Cass County, Ill., in 1849, and when a youth of sixteen years started out for himself. First making his way across the Mississippi he sojourned in Nemaha County, Neb., while the latter was still a Territory, for a few months, then returned to Illinois, and from there migrated to Kansas. He traveled around considerably until the fall of 1869, and then, although only twenty years of age, became interested in the cattle business with Col. John Williams, who was at that time President of the First National Bank of Springfield, Ill. His headquarters now were in Marion County, Kan., for a period of two years. He then returned again to his native State, sojourning there two years in Cass County.

In the fall of 1874 we find Mr. Barret a resident



of this county, located in its southeastern corner where he was engaged in farming until the spring of 1881. Then having been satisfied that he could live comfortably in Nebraska possibly for the remainder of his days, he secured 160 acres of land on section 11, and commenced the labors which have been fruitful of such rich results. For a man who started in life with but very little money it cannot be denied that Mr. Barret has done well. In 1886 he purchased a half-section of land in Pawnee County, which he still retains.

Nine years ago, on the 2d of October, 1879, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Alice Kershaw, who was born in 1854, and is the daughter of John and Alice (Lee) Kershaw, natives of England. The father is now deceased; the mother resides in this county. Mrs. Barret is now the mother of two interesting children: Nellie, born Jan. 1, 1881, and Woodson, Feb. 11, 1882. The abode of this little family is one of the most attractive in the precinct where they reside, and is the frequent resort of the many friends they have made through the exercise of a cheerful and generous hospitality. Mr. Barret in addition to general farming still maintains his interest in fine stock, and is making a specialty of Short-horn cattle, besides Hambletonian and Percheron horses. His swine, of which he keeps quite a number, are of the favorite Poland-China breed. Our subject is a man of fine natural abilities and good mental capacities, which received excellent culture in the Western University at Bloomington, Ill., where he completed his education. He keeps himself well informed upon current events, and although no politician gives his conscientious support to the principles of the Democratic party. Among the views of representative places of Johnson County presented in this volume may be found that belonging to Mr. Barret.



**E**ZEKIEL A. BROWN, of Todd Creek Precinct, deserves more than a passing notice, as he is one of those men who have been no unimportant factors in bringing Johnson County to its present condition. He owns and occupies a good farm of 160 acres on section 6, where he set-

tled in the fall of 1869, soon after landing, about October 6th of that year, in the young State of Nebraska. For this property he had traded a farm in Illinois, and although it was nothing but an uncultivated prairie, he had faith in the future of Nebraska, and set about the development of a homestead, with high hopes for the future. Although a man seldom realizes his anticipations Mr. Brown will probably acknowledge that his were little greater than the reality. The labor of years has been amply rewarded, our subject finding himself now in the possession of a fine property, with the prospect of ease and comfort in his old age.

There are few more desirable homesteads in Todd Creek Precinct than the property of Mr. Brown. The farm is enclosed with a beautiful hedge fence. Near the house especially this is kept closely trimmed and smooth, and supported here and there with a handsome evergreen or shrub. The dwelling, although not elegant perhaps, is convenient and comfortable in every respect, and there stands at the rear one of the finest barns in the precinct, built in modern style and furnished with every convenience for the care especially of fine horses. It is neatly painted in white, with green blinds, and is a structure affording vastly more comfort to the animals which it shelters than that afforded to hundreds of less fortunate human beings. Not far from the residence is ten acres of forest, planted by the hand of the proprietor. Mr. Brown also set out an apple orchard, and has trees of the smaller fruits, which yield abundantly in their season. He, however, gives his principal attention to live stock, making a specialty of draft horses, and also keeps sheep, cattle and swine.

Mr. Brown is recognized in his community as a man of more than ordinary ability, but carefully avoids the responsibilities of office, refraining from meddling with politics, otherwise than casting his vote with the Republican party. He, however, has discharged the duties of the various school and precinct offices, because able to perform their duties perhaps better than a stranger.

Mr. Brown, although having accomplished almost a life's labor, is still in his prime, having been born July 15, 1837. His birthplace and early home were in Jefferson County, Ohio, where he received

his education and lived until 1861, occupied in farming pursuits. In the fall of the year mentioned he left his native State, emigrating to the vicinity of Peoria, Ill., and purchasing a tract of land, which he operated a period of eight years. From there he came to Nebraska. In the meantime, during the Civil War, he enlisted, July 27, 1862, in the 86th Illinois Infantry, and met the enemy at the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga and other important battles, besides going partially through the Atlanta campaign. At Kenesaw Mountain he was wounded in his right shoulder, and sent to the hospital at Chattanooga, being later removed to Nashville, Tenn., and thence to Camp Joe Holt in Indiana. His hospital experience embraced a period of seven months, and he was then obliged to accept an honorable discharge for disability. From this wound he still suffers at intervals.

Our subject chose for his bride a lady of his native State, Miss Ruth Fuller, to whom he was married in Guernsey County, Ohio, July 27, 1858. This union resulted in the birth of seven children, six of whom are living, namely: Jane, Margaret, Sally, Grant, George and Amy. The eldest daughter is the wife of Luke Lytle, of Kansas, and they are the parents of four children; Sally married Jefferson Stover, of Table Rock, and they have one child.

Mrs. Ruth (Fuller) Brown was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, Jan. 21, 1830, and is the daughter of Thomas and Mary (Johnson) Fuller, the former of whom was also a native of the Buckeye State, and lived there with his family until the spring of 1861. Then he removed to Peoria County, Ill., where he carried on farming until his death, about the year 1876. The wife and mother passed away about three or four years previous to the decease of her husband. They were most excellent and worthy people, and members in good standing of the Baptist Church. Their family consisted of eight children.

Henry Brown, the father of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, about 1795, and in early manhood emigrated to Ohio, where he was married to Miss Jane Maple. They became the parents of eleven children, ten of whom lived to mature years. The father was one of the pioneers of Jefferson County, where he secured a tract of land and built up a

homestead, upon which he spent the remainder of his days. His wife survived him several years. They were well-to-do, having by thrift and industry accumulated a good property.

On another page the comfortable home and fine buildings of our subject are the subject of representation.



**D**ARWIN H. BERRY. One of the finest homes in the little city of Tecumseh is the property of the subject of this biography, and consists of a substantial and tasteful residence and barn, with ample grounds around it, and all the evidences of comfort and enjoyment. To this place Mr. Berry retired in the summer of 1886 from the active labors of farm life, in which he had been engaged the greater part of his life. His home is situated on Broadway street, in the eastern part of town. He still retains ownership of his farm, which comprises 320 acres of valuable land in Helena Precinct. His career has been that of the self-made man, who from a modest beginning has built up a snug fortune, and at the same time such has been his integrity of character that he enjoys the highest respect of the community where the best part of his life has been spent.

Our subject is a native of the Green Mountain State, his birthplace having been Alburgh, Grand Isle County, and the date thereof April 14, 1824. He lived there until a young man twenty-three years old, and on the 10th of May, 1847, started out to see something of the country around him. He traveled first all over New England, then visited the Middle States, and made his first halt in Newark, N. J. In the meantime he paid his expenses by teaching school. He resided in Newark one year, becoming owner of an eating house wherein temperance drinks were dispensed, and then having the opportunity to sell out to good advantage, did so and started for the West.

Young Berry, upon reaching Illinois, purchased a tract of land in Hancock County, began teaching school, and managed to pay for his property in this manner. In due time he had an improved farm of 240 acres which he had built up from the



wild prairie. He brought the land to a high state of cultivation, planted a large orchard and many other trees around his homestead, and gathered about himself and family all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life. He had married, Dec. 6, 1856, Miss Martha Wightman, of Hancock County, and of this union there were born four children. Of these but two are living. Allie, the elder, became the wife of Jirah S. Gordon, of Alburgh, Vt., and they are still living there, where Mr. G. is carrying on merchandising and farming. Harry S. married Miss Perintha Canon, of Pike County, Ill., and operates the home farm; they have one child, a son, Jirah S.

Mr. and Mrs. Berry lived in Illinois until the spring of 1864, when our subject sold out, and on the 1st of March started for Linn County, Iowa. There he purchased an improved farm where they lived three years, but not being satisfied with their surroundings sold out once more, and in 1867 purchased land in Helena Precinct, this county, to which they removed in the spring of 1868. Here Mr. Berry purchased 640 acres, improved the entire tract, and later transferred to his brother-in-law one-fourth of it. For this land he paid the sum of \$1,067.50, but it could not now be purchased for less than \$18,000. Few but they who have performed it can realize the labor involved in placing the soil under cultivation, planting trees, building fences and the necessary structures connected with the homestead, and the numberless other conveniences gathered together on the premises. The orchard alone contains 400 apple trees, while the smaller fruits abound in almost endless variety. The lumber for the residence was hauled from Nebraska City with teams. After his journey hither from the Hawkeye State, Mr. Berry and his family lived in a tent until their house could be brought to the condition affording them a shelter. Our subject encountered the usual struggles with grasshoppers and drouth and many other discouragements, but pursued the even tenor of his way, and has met with ample reward. For a number of years he was largely engaged in stock-raising, keeping numbers of horses, cattle and swine, and feeding to them mostly the grain raised upon the farm.

Amid these extensive interests Mr. Berry still

found time to maintain his record as a good citizen, and gave his substantial support and encouragement to the enterprises which should be of benefit to the people around him. He has ever been the friend of progress and education, and while no office-seeker, has usually been the incumbent of some position of trust or responsibility. He served as Director in his school district, and held the minor offices when there appeared no one else who had time or could fill them to better advantage.

Mrs. Martha (Wightman) Berry was born in Sandgate, Bennington Co., Vt., Jan. 11, 1835, and there developed into womanhood. Her parents, William and Martha Wightman, removed from the Green Mountain State to Illinois, where the father followed his trades of a wheelwright and contractor. He was a man of fine business capacities, and owned a farm, although he did not work upon it himself, simply superintending it. He lived to a ripe old age, and spent his last days in Linn County, Iowa, to which he had removed about ten years before his death, which occurred in 1875. The mother passed away two years before the decease of her husband, in 1873. Their family consisted of fifteen children.

The father of our subject, Jirah S. Berry, a native of Connecticut or Vermont, was born April 24, 1784. He was one of the most successful physicians of Alburgh, Vt., where he practiced many years, having the ride of that entire region for miles around. He was a man of property, a portion of it being in the shape of a good farm in Grand Isle County. He was graduated from the school of medicine at Castleton, Vt. He was well read, and a man of more than ordinary intelligence, keeping himself well posted upon the events of the day, and in all respects a prominent and praiseworthy citizen. He married Miss Ann Hyde, of Grand Isle County, and they became the parents of six children, five of whom lived to mature years, these all being carefully educated, and all of them for a time employed in teaching.

The maternal grandfather of our subject, Jonathan Hyde by name, was a highly respected Vermont farmer. After the death of her husband the mother of our subject continued to live in Alburgh



until 1852, then removed with her son Darwin H. to Illinois, where her death took place in Hancock County in the fall of 1864. Dr. Berry had died Jan. 10, 1831, aged fifty years. His excessive energy and industry were the direct cause of his taking off, as in pursuing the practice of his profession he was out early and late, giving himself little rest and no recreation. His generous disposition led him to serve those who perhaps would refuse to give him feed for his horse, much less his pay for his professional services. Upon his last exhaustive journey, after being out a day and a night, he returned to his home early in the afternoon, and at 5 o'clock was not able to stand upon his feet. He never passed beyond his own threshold again until carried out, dying in a few days.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Barnaby Berry, a Connecticut farmer who married a Miss Swift, and became the father of quite a large family. They removed from Connecticut to Vermont, and were among the earliest pioneers of Grand Isle County, where their children grew to manhood and womanhood before the War of 1812. The father was a physician and one of the first surgeons aboard the fleet at Plattsburg, engaging in the battle which was fought there Sept. 11, 1812. Grandfather Berry spent his last days at the home of his son in Northern New York, outliving his estimable wife many years.

**J**OSEPH WHITHAM, a Johnson County pioneer of 1873, settled in the spring of that year on eighty acres of land embracing a portion of section 25, Spring Creek Precinct, and for which he paid \$5 per acre. It was a stretch of raw prairie, destitute of cultivation or improvement, and presented a scene calculated to try the courage of any man in like circumstances. Our subject was unaccompanied by a wife or children to cheer him, coming alone, with a cash capital of \$23 in money, a team of horses and a few farming implements. He established himself in a dug-out, eleven feet square, and for the first three years kept bachelor's hall. For a number of years thereafter he endured the hardships and difficulties in-

cident to pioneer life, but from his toils and struggles he has come out with flying colors, having now one of the most valuable farms in his precinct, embracing now 100 acres. The dug-out, in 1886, was replaced by a more comfortable and commodious dwelling, and around it have arisen the various out-buildings for the shelter of stock and the storing of grain.

A native of Broome County, N. Y., our subject was born June 18, 1819, and is the son of John and Caroline (Rowe) Whitham, the father a native of Yorkshire, England, and the mother of Connecticut. John Whitham emigrated to America when a young lad, about 1820, crossing the Atlantic with his parents, John, Sr., and Hannah Whitham, they locating in Broome County, N. Y., where the father engaged in farming and milling, and where the father of our subject was reared to manhood. The latter received a limited education, but was trained to those habits of industry and economy which have served him well through his later life.

John Whitham was married, June 18, 1844, in Broome County, N. Y., to Miss Caroline Rowe, a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of Abijah Rowe, who was a New Englander by birth, and supposed to be of English ancestry. The Rowe family, as near as can be learned, came to America soon after the independence of the Colonists had been established, settling in Connecticut. To John and Caroline Whitham there were born six children, five of whom are living, namely: John, Jr., a resident of Warren, Ill.; Joseph, our subject; Eliza, the wife of B. C. Allen, of Dodge County, this State; William, a resident of Warren, Ill., and Jay M., of Fayetteville, Ark. The deceased child was a daughter, Hannah, who died when about eleven years old.

The parents of our subject, about 1855, leaving the Empire State, emigrated to Jo Daviess County, Ill., settling among its earliest pioneers, where the father engaged in agriculture and spent the remainder of his life. His death took place at the homestead, March 1, 1880. He was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church from early manhood, to the support of which he contributed liberally, and was a faithful laborer in the Master's vineyard, officiating as Class-Leader, and

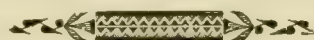
otherwise identified himself with the best interests of his church. He enjoyed a wide acquaintance in Jo Daviess County, where he was highly respected, and he left to his family a comfortable estate. In New York State he had been prominent in the affairs of his county, holding the offices of Assessor and Justice of the Peace, and filled other positions of trust and responsibility. He was a Republican from the time of the party's organization. The mother is still living, being now sixty-four years old, in good health and retaining her faculties unimpaired. She is a very estimable lady, and belongs to the same church as did her honored husband. She makes her home with her son William, at Warren, Ill.

Our subject accompanied his parents in their removal from New York State to Illinois, and was reared among the scenes of pioneer life in Jo Daviess County. All the children of the family received a common-school education, and have distinguished themselves as upright and worthy citizens. Jay M., the brother who went South, is now a leading professor in the State University of Arkansas. His tastes incline toward military tactics, and he obtained entrance to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis, from which he was graduated with honors, and thereafter served about four years in the United States Navy, resigning his position finally to take that which he now holds. In the meantime, in the performance of his naval duties, he had visited a number of foreign countries, and the expeditions proved both pleasurable and profitable.

Our subject has been content to follow farming all his life. He remained under the parental roof until about twenty-one years old. He was married, Dec. 31, 1876, to Miss Sophia Hayden, who was born in Cumberland County, Ky., Dec. 25, 1855. They began their wedded life in Spring Creek, and of this union there were born five children, namely: Caroline, Mattie, Ella, Jessie and Sophia. This lady died at the homestead in Spring Creek Precinct, March 2, 1887.

Mr. Whitham contracted a second marriage, July 17, 1887, with Miss Zerelda Mavity, who was born in Atchison County, Mo., Sept. 23, 1866. Her parents, Joseph and Evaline Mavity, were natives of

Indiana and Illinois, and are now residents of this county. Of this union there is one child, a son, John J., who was born May 1, 1888. Mr. Whitham, in the fall of 1884, was elected one of the Commissioners of Johnson County, serving his term of three years in a creditable manner, and for four years has been a Justice of the Peace. He is now completing his seventh year as a School Director in his district. He is public-spirited and liberal, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket. Religiously, he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he is a Trustee and one of its most active members.



**D**R. PETER V. R. DAFOE, a retired physician, and at present enjoying the comforts of a pleasant home, is also proprietor of a fine drug-store at Tecumseh, and has connected with the drug business a stock of musical instruments, in which he has built up a good trade among the leading residents of the precinct. His store is located on the north side of Broadway, opposite the court-house. The Doctor has been a resident of this county for a number of years, and during this time has made many friends.

Our subject was born in Hastings, Province of Ontario, Canada, Dec. 19, 1838, and there spent his boyhood days, completing his education in the Friends' Seminary at Picton, Prince Edward County. He then taught school for a number of years, and finally deciding to take up the study of medicine, entered the office of Dr. George Henry, of Sterling, with whom he read medicine until about twenty years old. He took his first course of lectures at Victoria Medical College in Toronto, in the winter of 1861-62, and later, making his way to Saginaw County, Mich., to visit friends, he was persuaded by them to settle there and begin practice. This he did with excellent results, both socially and financially. He was thus occupied five months, and at the beginning of the college year returned to Toronto, took another course, and again practiced as before. He was graduated on the 24th of May, 1864, and commenced his regular practice at Greenville, North York County, where he remained two



years, built up as before a good business, and was then appointed by the Government as physician to the Snake Indians.

In the spring of 1866 Dr. Dafoe located at Elmwood, Ill., where he remained until Sept. 1, 1879, and in connection with his practice, established a drug-store there also. In the same year he crossed the Mississippi, locating in Tecumseh, this county, and in 1880 established his present business, which has proved a great convenience to the people of this locality. He removed to Council Bluffs, but only remained there ten months. He only practices now among his old friends and patrons, who, having satisfactorily proved his skill, are unwilling to let him go.

On the morning of Dec. 15, 1884, Dr. Dafoe after breakfast went out, key in hand, to open his store, and upon arriving upon the site found nothing but a few smouldering remains. The building and stock had been entirely destroyed by fire during the night. The shock could not be otherwise than great, but the Doctor recovered as soon as possible, and at once ordered a new stock of goods, having them on hand for the Christmas trade. The spring following he put up the fine brick building the first floor of which is occupied by his store and the jewelry business of another party. This structure is an ornament to the town, being built of brick, two stories in height, with plate glass front. The upper floor is arranged and occupied by offices. It was the second brick block put up on the north side.

Our subject has been quite prominent in local affairs, and in 1886 was elected Alderman, serving two years acceptably, but although a man public-spirited and interested in the welfare of his community, he would much prefer relegating the responsibilities of office to others. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, in which he has taken nine degrees, and also at different times been an officer in his lodge. He has been an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a number of years, officiating as Steward and Sunday-school Superintendent, and laboring as he had opportunity to further the Master's cause.

Miss Carrie Nelson, of Eugene, Knox Co., Ill., became the wife of our subject April 23, 1867, and

of this union there were born three children, of whom but two are living. Albert N. was born Nov. 23, 1870, at Elmwood, Ill., and was graduated from the Tecumseh High School in the spring of 1888; he proposes, however, in the near future to continue his studies in another institution. Frank was born Jan. 11, 1873, is an unusually bright and interesting boy, and is pursuing his studies in the High School. Mrs. Carrie (Nelson) Dafoe, was born at Eugene, Ill., in 1842, and is the daughter of Josiah and Margaret (King) Nelson. She was given a good education, completing her studies at Knox College in Galesburg, and made her home with her parents until her marriage. She is a very estimable lady, intelligent and refined, and a devoted Christian, having been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for twenty-one years, and warmly engaged in Sunday-school work.

Josiah Nelson, the father of Mrs. Dafoe, is a native of Pennsylvania, and when a young man removed, about 1837, to Knox County, Ill., of which he is still a resident. He entered the Prairie State a poor man, with no resources but his willing hands and courageous heart, and is now numbered among its moneyed men and leading land-owners, being proprietor of 800 acres, well improved and in a high state of cultivation. He is largely devoted to the raising of grain and stock, and is a man prominent in his community.

Mr. Nelson married Miss Margaret King, whose parents live on the quarter-section adjoining, and they have traveled the journey of life together for a period of fifty years. The parents and the seven children form an unbroken family circle which has as yet been unvisited by the fell Destroyer. The elder children were daughters, and during the late war the father sometimes regretted that he had only one son old enough to enter the army and fight for the defense of the Union. That one became a soldier before he was of age.

Michael Dafoe, the father of our subject, was born in Frontenac, Province of Ontario, Canada, in 1792, and moved to Hastings County soon after his marriage. He received a practical education and later followed farming. He married Miss Mary Wright about 1825, and they lived upon the farm where they first settled, and where all their children.



twelve in number, were born. Of these seven are living. The only one besides our subject who came to the United States was a sister, who is a resident of Dakota. His brother Michael died in the summer of 1858, leaving a good farm to his widow, who lived upon it until 1871, when her death took place. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which Michael held the office of Steward and was one of its chief pillars. The property which he left remains in the family. The Doctor is a popular man in his community, one whose opinions are generally respected, and who is recognized as the possessor of more than ordinary capabilities.



**J**OHNS BEAL. Upon section 19 of Western Precinct is to be found one of the most admirably appointed stock farms in the county. It is the property of the gentleman whose history it is here sought briefly to set before the reader. He was born in Knox County, Ohio, on the 7th of December, 1837, to Jacob and Elizabeth Beal, of the above county. His father is a native of Somerset County, Pa., and his mother of Virginia. Mr. Beal, Sr., settled in Ohio as a young man just starting in life, when that country was in all its newness as a Territory, with its broad acres uncultivated and its resources undeveloped.

The common school was the institution in which the subject of our sketch received the foundation of his mental development. Realizing that it was by no means the completion of his education, his efforts in that direction have been unceasing. In 1859 he went overland to Colorado and California, where he remained mining gold until 1865, meeting with quite fair success. At the end of that time he returned to Knox County, where he remained until the spring of 1868, when he came to Nebraska.

Until the fall of that year Mr. Beal made his home in the city of Beatrice, when he removed to Tecumseh, and there made his home until he came to his present farm in the spring of 1869. Upon taking up his residence upon his property he realized that he was in the midst of a vast undeveloped country. As far as the eye could reach in

any direction nothing could be discerned that would indicate any habitation of man, and very few signs were discernible of his handiwork. Beatrice and Tecumseh were the nearest points for trading and marketing, and either were at least twenty miles distant from him. He has watched with pleasure and pride the development of the country all around, and observed the growth of the present wealthy community. His farm is now 195 acres in extent and is one of the best in the district.

Before leaving Knox County Mr. Beal was married. The event was celebrated in January, 1868; the lady who at the time allied herself with our subject was Maria J. Lovitt, the estimable daughter of Daniel and Deborah Lovitt, of Ohio. To Mr. and Mrs. Beal have been given four children, of whom three still survive, viz: Orvil, James A. and Eugene, all of whom make their home with their parents.

For two terms Mr. Beal has served in the office of Assessor with much satisfaction to all parties concerned, but is quite reticent as regards political or any other office. He has always been a friend of the temperance cause, and is now a firm Prohibitionist. As a man and citizen he is much admired by reason of his high character; as a farmer and stock-raiser he is most successful, his specialty being the higher grades of stock of the best breeds. His farm is supplied with everything needed for successful operation, and his home is one of the most pleasantly situated and comfortable in the community.



**E**LZIE COMBS, the proprietor of the extensive livery and sale stable on Third street in Tecumseh, and in that connection widely and favorably known, was born in Knox County, Ill. on the 7th of November, 1862. When he was about seven years of age his parents came to Nebraska. They made their home in this county for a short time and then removed to Bennet, in Lancaster County. Before our subject was ten years of age the home was bereaved of wife and

mother, and our subject has therefore from that time been without the affectionate care, guidance and counsel of the nearest relation on earth.

Left to fight his own battles to a large extent, the subject of our sketch has been more successful in every way than many who have had every advantage; possibly because he came to realize the situation, and therefore bent his energies with more determined effort to the task of making his own way. All the education he has received has been obtained in the common school, which, however, he attended but a short time. Early in life he engaged in farming, and continued to follow the same. For one season he was engaged in herding, attending the town herd at \$1 a month a head. This gave him his start; after that he set up as a barber in this city.

In 1882 Mr. Combs migrated to Wyoming Territory, and after remaining there about two years returned to this place, and was variously engaged until the 25th of July, 1888, when he secured the business in which he is now engaged. He has constant work for eighteen horses, and usually keeps a larger number on hand. In addition to his livery and sale stable, and the business connected therewith, Mr. Combs is the owner of two farms in Kansas; one is situated about four miles from Ft. Scott, in a northwesterly direction, is 160 acres in extent, well improved and possessing very fine buildings; the other is in Greenwood County, Kan., and comprises 160 acres.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated on the 15th of November, 1887, the lady whom it is his happiness to have made the companion of his life being Miss Nellie Barrow of this city. She is the daughter of the Rev. R. C. Barrow, the well-known and efficient State Evangelist of the Christian Church, a popular, eloquent and effective preacher. This gentleman is a native of Pennsylvania, and was married to Miss Helen Harding. They are the parents of four children, who are still living. His connection with the State of Nebraska extends over a long period of years.

Nelson D. Combs, the father of our subject, was born in Highland County, Ohio, Feb. 18, 1833. By trade he was a harness-maker, and came to Nebraska when our subject was but seven years of

age, as above noted. Since coming to the State he has been variously occupied, and since the death of his wife has been of somewhat nomadic disposition, never settling in any place for a great length of time.

Our subject is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and also of the Sons of Veterans, his father having served in the army, holding a commission as First Lieutenant. Mr. Combs is a young man and has not yet had much opportunity or time to manifest his true value, power and ability, but should he be spared, as judging from present appearances, he undoubtedly will, it is not too much to say that the future will be bright for him, and that he will fill an honored place in the community wherein he may reside.



**WILLIAM H. HOLMES.** The subject of this sketch is familiarly known among the farmers and stock-raisers of Helena Precinct as one of the most prosperous men along the northern line of Johnson County. His property is pleasantly located on sections 27 and 34, and embraces a fine homestead 320 acres in extent, and with its neat and substantial buildings, and the other appurtenances of the modern estate, reflects great credit upon the industry and good taste of the proprietor.

A native of Fulton County, Ill., our subject was born March 12, 1845, and is the son of Thomas and Rachel A. (Deary) Holmes. The father was a native of Green County, Ky., and the paternal grandfather, Nathan Holmes, was one of the early Baptist preachers of the Blue Grass regions. The latter emigrated to Fulton County, Ill., during the early settlement of the Prairie State, locating in what was then designated as the Military District. He battled successfully with the wild prairie soil and there spent his last days.

The father of our subject was born Dec. 7, 1813, and was a youth of nineteen years when he went to Illinois with his parents. He assisted them in their endeavors to build up a homestead, and when about twenty-three years old was married, Dec. 1, 1836, to Miss Rachel A. Deary, who was born in



the Shenandoah Valley, Va., Feb. 16, 1817. This union resulted in the birth of ten children, eight of whom are supposed to be living. They are as follows: Mary J., the wife of Samuel Miner, of Lincoln Precinct, this county; Sarah A., Mrs. T. H. Matthews, of Spring Creek Precinct; Josephine, Mrs. H. M. Edie, of Macomb, Ill.; William H., our subject; Hiram Franklin lives in Stuttgart, Ark., and married Miss Sarah J. Hipsley; Thomas B., who died when about one and a half years old; Florence E., Mrs. J. C. Stokes, of Nemaha City, Neb.; Charles C., who married Miss Sarah J. Ball, and is in Stuttgart, Ark.; Edward, who married Miss Phebe Russell, and lives in Fairfield, Clay County, this State, and Douglas, who died in infancy.

The parents of our subject were residents of Fulton County, Ill., for many years, and the father died there at the homestead, Dec. 20, 1881. He was a stanch Democrat, politically, and a man of considerable influence among the members of his party in that region. The temperance cause found in him a most ardent supporter. He was a man prompt to meet his obligations, and one whose word was considered as good as his bond. In his death Fulton County lost one of her best citizens. The wife and mother is living, making her home with her son William H., and spending her declining years amid the comforts which she has justly earned by a lifetime of devotion to duty. She has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church many years, and is a lady possessing all the Christian virtues. The elder Holmes was successful in his farming and business transactions, and left to his family a comfortable estate.

William H. Holmes was reared to manhood in his native county, receiving a practical education in its common schools, and becoming familiar with farming as carried on in the pioneer days, by methods which it is hardly necessary to state were far inferior to those of the present day, with its wonderful inventions and modern machinery. He was the eldest son of the family, and the first son married, this interesting event taking place in the evening of Dec. 25, 1867. His bride, Miss Olive E. Battles, was born July 19, 1842, in Medina County, Ohio, and was a daughter of George W. and Frelove

(Tyler) Battles, the father a resident of California; the mother died in Fulton County, Ill., about 1860. Of this union there was born one child, a son, Edward B., Jan. 31, 1870. Mrs. Olive Holmes died in Fulton County, Ill., Sept. 20, 1871.

Our subject contracted a second marriage, Oct. 14, 1873, with Miss Sarah J. Stoops, who was born in Fulton County, Ill., Sept. 6, 1853. Her parents, William and Keziah (Clark) Stoops, were natives of Ohio, and early settlers of Fulton County, Ill. The mother spent her last years in that county, and died in 1860; the father resides in the latter county. The children of this marriage are recorded as follows: William T. was born Oct. 5, 1874; Gertrude F., Jan. 15, 1876; Olive K., July 24, 1878; Stella R., Nov. 24, 1884, and Grace A., March 11, 1887.

Mr. Holmes continued a resident of his native county until the fall of 1882, engaged in farming and stock-raising, then disposing of his interests in that region came to Nebraska, and settled on his present farm, which embraces 320 acres of prime land. Under his careful management the soil has proved very productive, and the buildings, neat and substantial, fulfill the modern idea of the complete country home. Mr. Holmes in the fall of 1887 was elected Assessor of Helena Precinct, and re-elected in November, 1888. Politically, he is a stanch Democrat. Mrs. Holmes is connected with the Christian Church, and both occupy a high position among the social circles of their community.

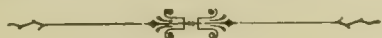
Mr. Holmes in 1874 identified himself with the Masonic fraternity, and officiated one year as Senior Warden in Lodge No. 17, at Tecumseh. He is also a member of the Johnson County Agricultural Association, and has signalized himself as a man in favor of all the measures instituted for the improvement of the county and the elevation of its people.

Mrs. Keziah (Clark) Stoops, the mother of Mrs. Holmes, was also a native of Ohio, and was taken to Illinois by her parents when about two years old. She was there reared and married, and was the second wife of William Stoops, his first having been Hannah Lindsey. The third was Margaret Hanna. Mr. Stoops was the father of a large family of children, seven of whom survive, namely: Amy, Mrs. Samuel Knock, of Fulton County, Ill.; Mary E., Mrs. William Guthrie, also of Fulton County; Mrs.



Holmes, the wife of our subject; Benton, who married Miss Annie Russell, and lives in Fulton County, Ill.; Perry H., who married Miss Belle Boothy, and is a practicing physician and surgeon, of Union, Iowa; Addie and Richard O., in Fulton County.

Edward B., the eldest son of our subject, a bright and intelligent boy, was graduated from the Tecumseh High School in May, 1888, and proposes to become a farmer and stock-raiser.



**JAMES S. H. HAMILTON.** The man who can look back upon a long and well-spent life "deserves more than a passing mention. The subject of this biography, now past seventy-six years of age, ranks among the most honored pioneers of Nebraska, and came to Johnson County to settle in the spring of 1868. He had a few months previously homesteaded 124 acres of land on section 19, Spring Creek Precinct, ninety-three acres of which he still owns, having given the balance to his daughter.

Of New England birth and parentage, Mr. Hamilton was born May 30, 1812, in Hampden County, Mass., under the modest roof of his parents, James and Hulda (Bishop) Hamilton, who were living near the town of Granville. James Hamilton was also a native of the Bay State, but the mother was born in Connecticut. The father traced his ancestry to Ireland, and Grandfather James Hamilton was born on the ocean during the journey of his parents to America, and prior to the Revolutionary War. The Bishops were of English descent, and came to this country during the Colonial days, settling also in New England.

The mother of our subject was twice married. Of her first marriage, with Samuel Watrous, there were born two children, both of whom are deceased. To James and Hulda Hamilton there were born seven children, of whom our subject is the only survivor. Six lived to mature years.

Our subject was reared to man's estate in his native county, receiving in common with the youth of that period a limited education, but he has been a reader all his life and is well posted upon topics of general interest. When seventeen years old he

began serving an apprenticeship as a spectacle maker, and followed this trade for a period of fifteen years. He was married Dec. 26, 1831, to a maiden of his own county, Miss Caroline Colton, who was born Sept. 3, 1811, and was the daughter of Ebenezer and Phebe Colton, who were also of New England birth and parentage, and of English ancestry. David Barton, a maternal uncle of Mrs. Hamilton, served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and yielded up his life in the army from illness. Mrs. Hamilton was one of twelve children, ten of whom are known to be deceased; her brother John is supposed to be living, and a resident of Philadelphia, Pa.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton there were born five children, three of whom are living, namely: Frances C., the wife of Wesley Dundas, of Nemaha County; Lucy A., Mrs. John E. Hall, of Spring Creek Precinct, this county, and Emeretta G., the wife of Ahira O. Scoville, of Spring Creek Precinct. About 1847 Mr. Hamilton, desirous of a change of location and occupation, left New England for the West, and took up his abode in Homer, Mich., where he followed the trade of carpenter and joiner about one year. Later he worked at the same trade in different parts of Michigan, but in the fall of 1866, crossing the Mississippi, landed in Richardson County, this State, and from there about two years later came to Johnson County for permanent settlement. During his residence of twenty years among the people of Spring Creek Precinct, he has acquitted himself as an honest man and a good citizen, and has gathered around him hosts of friends. He built up his farm from the wild prairie, taking shelter first with his family with his son-in-law. His possessions are the result of his own industry, aided by that of his excellent and sensible wife. Many were the hardships and difficulties they endured during the first years of their residence in Nebraska, but they had come to stay, and would listen to no such word as "fail." Now, sitting under their own vine and fig tree, and cheered by the affection of their children and friends, they are reaping the reward of the hardships of other years.

Mr. Hamilton cast his first Presidential vote for Clay, and voted with the Whig party, then with the

Republican until 1888, when his warm interest in the temperance movement caused him to ally himself with the Prohibitionists. Both he and his estimable wife have been members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church for a period of thirty years. Mr. Hamilton has always distinguished himself as a liberal-minded and public-spirited citizen, encouraging the enterprises best calculated to advance the interests of the people around him. This aged pair have traveled the journey of life together fifty-seven years, and have become so necessary to each other that it would seem like sundering a limb from a body were they separated.

Mr. Hamilton gave two sons to the service of his country during the late war, who fell victims in the pride and strength of their early manhood. Both were members of the 3d Michigan Infantry, and the eldest, Virgil M., was wounded at the battle of Spottsylvania Court House, and died ten days later at Fredericksburg; his remains now fill a soldier's grave in the Baptist Churchyard at the same place. Emmett A. was wounded at the battle of Fair Oaks, but recovered sufficiently to participate in the second battle of Bull Run, where it is supposed he was killed, as he was never afterward heard from.



**G**EORGE W. AUKER. The homestead which this gentleman built up from an uncultivated tract of land in Maple Grove Precinct occupies the southeast quarter of the west half of section 20. He came to this county in the spring of 1868, and took up a homestead claim in the month of May, acquiring at first 120 acres. Upon this he has since lived, and has effected the extensive improvements which to-day attract the admiring gaze of the passerby. The whole area is under cultivation, and several thousand trees have been planted for the purpose of shade and fruit. The latter especially Mr. A. has kept in view, having an orchard of seventy-five bearing apple trees, 700 peach trees and fifty cherry. His buildings are substantial and comfortable. The farm is stocked with a goodly assortment of domestic animals, and

the premises and its surroundings present a picture of rural life which is pleasant to contemplate.

Our subject is the son of a Pennsylvania farmer, George W. Auker, Sr., who married Miss Sarah Strait, of Perry County. They settled in Perry County, Ohio, and there spent the remainder of their days, the father passing away in 1841, in middle life, and the mother eighteen years later, in 1859. Their family included nine children, of whom our subject was the seventh in order of birth. He first opened his eyes to the light at the old homestead in Perry County, Ohio, May 6, 1833. He continued a member of the parental household until a youth of fifteen years, then commenced working on a farm in the neighborhood. He was thus occupied three years, when he entered upon an apprenticeship at the carpenter trade and cabinet-making in Straitville. A year later he established in business for himself; subsequently he made his home on the farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his marriage, in 1860.

The maiden name of Mrs. Auker was Lavina Strait, and her parents were Richard and Rachel (Jennings) Strait, the father a native of England, and the mother of Pennsylvania. Their family consisted of ten children, of whom Mrs. Auker was the ninth in order of birth. Her native place was Darke County, Ohio, where she first opened her eyes to the light June 15, 1837. Four of her brothers and two sisters are now living, and are residents of Ohio and Tennessee. Mr. and Mrs. A. continued to live in Darke County for a time after their marriage, and Mr. A. employed himself at cabinet work.

In the spring of 1864 our subject with his family left the Buckeye State and set out for Sangamon County, Ill. Three years later, in 1867, they returned to Darke County, Ohio, but in 1868 our subject, who had not recovered from his Western fever, gathered together once more his family and his personal effects and started across the Mississippi River. Coming to this county he homesteaded the land included in his present farm. Since that time he has given his attention closely to agriculture with the results which we behold all around him to-day.

To Mr. and Mrs. Auker there were born eight







who were natives respectively of New York and Canada. Mrs. Hill is a native of Canada, and was born in 1836. She received the foundation of her education there, and went to Chicago with her mother when sixteen years old. She was graduated from the schools of Chicago, and taught in different points in Illinois until near the time of her marriage. In 1872 she removed with her husband to Iroquois County, Ill.

In 1879 our subject went to Chicago, and was engaged in the establishment of Mashall Field & Co. as a salesman until March, 1883, when he came to Nebraska with his parents, who still live about two miles east of Smartville, where they own 160 acres of land. In October, 1884, Mr. Hill returned to Naperville, Ill., and was there married, on the 9th of that month, taking as his wife Miss Hettie Steward, returning with her at once to the Nebraska home. He had been prosperously engaged in mercantile business with Mr. L. E. Ost, and continued with him for two years. At the end of that period he went into the grain business, and has since that time given all his attention thereto.

In Illinois Mrs. Hill was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but has not united with any church organization here, as there is none such as she would choose. Our subject is a staunch member of the Republican party, and an active worker in the ranks. He has been appointed a member of the Central Committee, and is very energetic in connection therewith, taking a deep interest in everything that pertains to the government of the country and the elucidation of the different questions of moment before the country.

ROBERT DEW, of Lincoln Precinct, is pleasantly located on section 20, where he makes a specialty of stock-raising, and where he has been located since the spring of 1866. At that time, coming from Mason County, Ill., he homesteaded 160 acres of land, and began to build up from the uncultivated prairie a home for himself, and those dependent upon him. He was prospered in his labors, which for a number of years were prosecuted early and late, through sunshine

and through storm, amid the difficulties of a distant market, and frequently indifferent crops. In looking upon his fine estate to-day it would seem that he has little reason for complaint, as he is now the owner of 470 acres of land in Johnson County, all of which is in a productive condition, and from which he enjoys a handsome income.

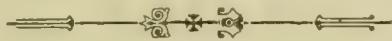
Mr. Dew was born in Morgan County, Ill., Jan. 1, 1837, and is the son of William and Catherine (Clotfelter) Dew, who were natives of Tennessee and supposed to be of Irish ancestry. The paternal grandfather served in the War of 1812, and as near as can be gathered was a native of Tennessee, where he spent his entire life.

William Dew when leaving his native State settled in Central Illinois during the period of its early history, where he became the father of a large family, of whom the following survive, namely: Elizabeth, the wife of Ishmael Hickey, of Spring Creek Precinct, this county; Nancy, the wife of Charles Carman, of Fremont County, Iowa; Mary, also a Mrs. Carman, of Atchison County, Mo.; Robert, our subject; Jacob, of Tecumseh; and Hester A., Mrs. Sylvester Cogshall, of Dakota. While our subject was an infant his parents changed their residence from Morgan to Mason County, Ill., where the father carried on farming until his death, which occurred in 1853. The mother survived her husband a period of twenty-nine years, remaining a widow, and spent her last days at the home of her son in this State, her death taking place about 1882.

Mr. Dew was reared to manhood in Mason County, Ill., where he received a limited education, his studies being conducted in the pioneer schools with the limited facilities of that time. He has, however, been a reader all his life, and by the perusal of instructive books and the periodicals of the day, has kept himself well informed upon matters of general interest. He has known no other occupation than farm life, and with this has been content. Soon after the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted in July, 1861, in Company K, 17th Illinois Infantry, and participated in many of the important battles of the war, being at Shiloh under Gen. Grant, and engaged in various other conflicts with the enemy. About one and one-half years after his enlistment

he was captured by the rebels in Tennessee, but was immediately paroled and sent to Jefferson Barracks, at St. Louis, Mo., where he remained about ten months. He was then duly exchanged, and immediately rejoined his regiment at Vicksburg, remaining with it until the expiration of his term of enlistment, and receiving his honorable discharge in July, 1864. He at once returned to his home in Mason County, Ill., and in December following was married to Miss Elizabeth Bain, of Mason County, and by whom he has become the father of eight children. Of these but five are living, namely: Hettie, at home; Nettie, the wife of William Miner, of Chase County, this State; Ada, at home; Jennie and Minnie. The deceased are John L., Carrie M. and Dellie.

In the spring of 1866 Mr. Dew, accompanied by his family, left Illinois for Nebraska, and settled amid the pioneer elements of Johnson County, where he was soon recognized as a valued addition to the community. He is a staunch Republican, politically, and takes an active interest in local affairs, being the warm friend of education, and serving as Moderator in his school district. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F., at Tecumseh.



**J**AMES SHAY. The subject of this sketch is numbered among the most intelligent farmers of Todd Creek Precinct, where he is engaged in general agriculture and stock-raising, and owns a finely cultivated farm of eighty acres lying on sections 4 and 9. He is a man held in high esteem by his neighbors, courteous and honorable, enterprising and public-spirited, and in all respects a valuable member of the community.

Our subject began life in Knox County, Ill., on the 26th of January, 1839, and there spent his first twenty-three years, receiving a practical education in the common schools and becoming familiar with farming pursuits. At these he was employed until 1866, when, on account of failing health, he was obliged to seek something requiring less exercise of muscle. Repairing now to Macon County he entered the employ of the Illinois Central Railroad Company, continuing with them a period of fifteen

years, until the fall of 1882, and officiating much of the time as local engineer.

Mr. Shay, now having partially regained his health, crossed the Father of Waters into Nebraska, and located upon an improved farm, which he had purchased in 1874, and of which he still retains possession. He has effected many improvements, setting out forest and fruit trees, placing the best fencing, and in all respects bringing the farm up to the standard of the times. Not the least among its embellishments is the handsome residence, which, with its surroundings, fulfills the modern idea of the complete home.

One of the most important and interesting events in the life of our subject took place on the 5th of March, 1861, when he was united in marriage with Miss Rosetta Dolph. This lady is a native of the same county in Illinois as her husband, and was born July 6, 1844. Her parents, Anson and Harriet (Darling) Dolph, were natives of New York State, and the father a farmer and mechanic combined. He emigrated to Illinois when middleaged, and spent his last days in Knox County, dying about 1852. The wife and mother is deceased. She was married a second time, and is the Harriet Snyder spoken of below. To Mr. and Mrs. Shay there were born five children, only four of whom are living, namely: Anson D., Ada A., Myrtle M. and Carlton E. Chester A. died when about two and a half years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Shay are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Tecumseh, to the support of which they contribute liberally, as to all other objects having in view the moral and religious welfare of the community. Mr. Shay while in Illinois was a Sunday-school Superintendent for many years, has also officiated as Class-Leader, and been sent as a delegate to the various church conferences. He was at one time a local preacher, having been duly licensed, and has always, when time and opportunity afforded, kept carefully in view the importance of the Master's work. He has also been quite prominent in other local affairs, holding the various school offices and assisting to the best of his ability the cause of education.

Julius Shay, the father of our subject, was born



in Sussex County, N. J., in 1813, and when a youth of eighteen years accompanied his parents to Ohio, where he learned harness-making and saddlery. He was occupied at this for many years, but finally leaving the Buckeye State, purchased a farm in Knox County, Ill., where he is still living and carrying on agriculture. He married, in early manhood, Miss Elizabeth Amanda Stephens, and to them were born six children, all living. The father identified himself with the Protestant Methodist Church early in life, and is a good man in the broadest sense of the term. He served as Class-Leader and Steward, and gave a liberal support to the church of his choice. The wife and mother died at the homestead in Knox County, in 1854. David Shay, the paternal grandfather, also a native of New Jersey, died of measles contracted in the army while serving as a soldier in the War of 1812. He left a widow with several small children.

Harriet Snyder, Mrs. Shay's mother, assisted at the table when Gen. LaFayette was banqueted in New York City, about 1826, while on a visit to the country for which he had done such valiant service in the Revolutionary War.



**JOHN C. CAMPBELL.** The Campbells of Scotland have long been celebrated in song and story, and of the following of that great family the subject of this sketch is a descendant, and was born in the city of Edinburgh, Sept. 1, 1832. He is now one of the most highly respected residents of Spring Creek Precinct. His farm on section 30 is indicative on every hand of the industry and intelligence characteristic of the proprietor.

Our subject when a youth of eighteen years accompanied his parents, Blair and Isabelle Campbell, to America, taking passage on a sailing-vessel at Glasgow, and landing at New York City after an ocean voyage of six weeks and three days. From the metropolis they proceeded to Cass County, Ill., where the father began working at his trade of shoemaker, first by the day. His innate honesty and integrity gained him friends and customers,

and in due time he established a shoe shop in the village of Virginia, where he spent the remainder of his life and lived to be ninety years of age. He died at the home of his daughter, in Chicago, July 8, 1886, having survived his estimable wife twelve years, her death taking place in the fall of 1874.

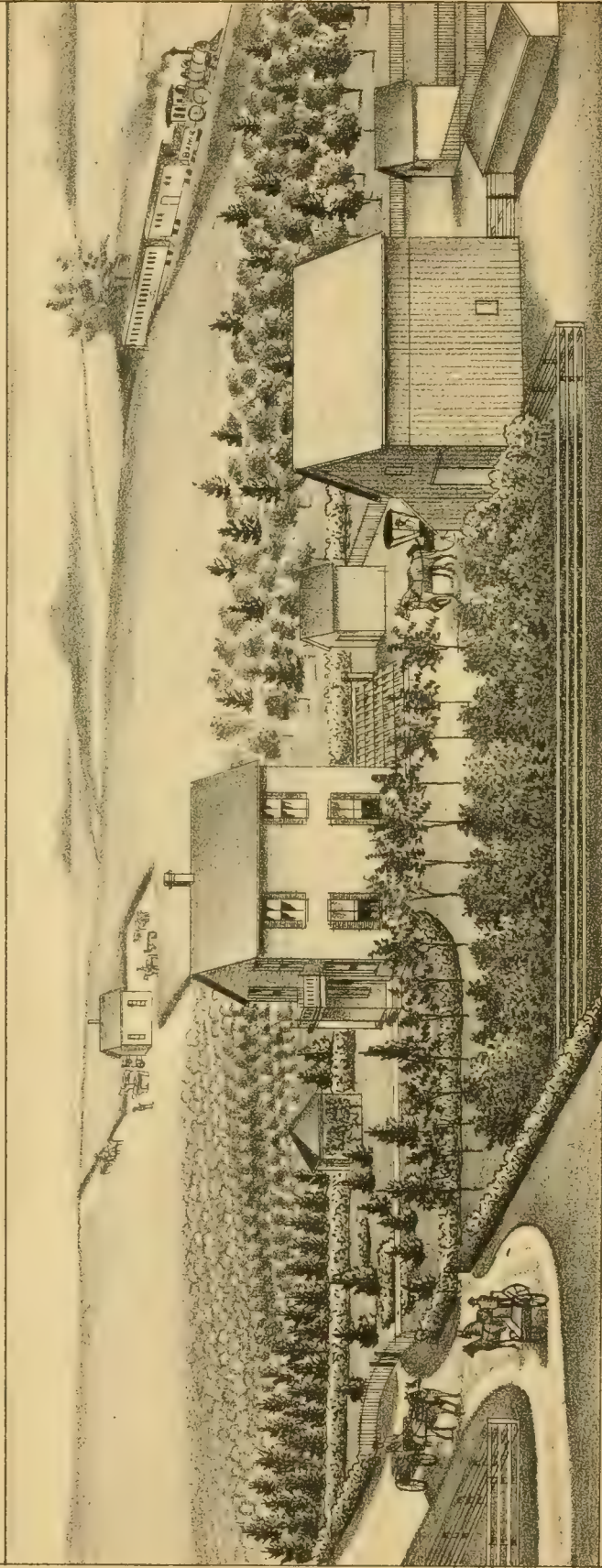
The parents of our subject were both members of the Christian Church, and, though not obtaining wealth or luxury for their children, trained them in those habits which proved of more service to them than riches. The home hearth is remembered by them as the dearest spot on earth, and where cluster the most precious associations. The household circle included eleven children, of whom but five are living, namely: Isabelle, Mrs. David McLaughlin, of Muskegon, Mich.; Margaret, Mrs. Rogers, a widow, and a resident of Chicago; James, living in Dakota; John, our subject, and Jane, the wife of George Ellis, living near Red Oak, Iowa. The deceased are Euphemia, Mary, Archibald and three who died in infancy. Archibald enlisted as a soldier in the late Civil War, and was drowned in the Mississippi River from the steamer "Jane Watson" while on his way to his regiment at New Orleans, together with about thirty other soldiers, whose lives were thus lost, owing to incompetency and whisky.

John C. Campbell continued a member of the parental household until his marriage, which took place Nov. 6, 1856, his bride being Miss Elizabeth Needham. Mrs. Campbell was born in England, and came to America with her parents, who were of English birth and ancestry. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell came to this county in 1865, and Mr. C. at once homesteaded 160 acres of land in Spring Creek Precinct, of which he has since been a resident. The story of the first few years which he spent here differs little from that of his brother pioneers, and he proved equal to the task before him, battling successfully with the elements of a new soil, and gaining for himself and his family a home and competency.

To Mr. and Mrs. Campbell there have been born six children, namely: Mary Effie, who early evinced great musical talent, and is now a successful teacher of the art; Ellen A., a teacher in the schools of Tecumseh; Maggie, a teacher of music; Lucy, who







NURSERY OF W. R. HARRIS SEC. 34. NEMAHA PRECINCT.

is also devoted to this art, and is a teacher of rare merit; John, who is pursuing his studies in the State Normal School, at Peru, and Ellen, who has graduated from that institution. It will thus be seen that the children of Mr. Campbell are a remarkably bright and interesting group, and have been given all the advantages suitable to their station in life. The parents and daughters are active members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Campbell, politically, casts his lot with the Prohibition party. He has built up for himself the record of an honest man and a good citizen, and enjoys in a marked degree the confidence of all who know him.



**W**ILLIAM R. HARRIS, whose beautiful and extensive nursery, a view of which is given on the opposite page, has brought him into prominent notice in that department of trade, is one of the enterprising and wise business men of the county. He has some twenty acres of splendid land, well laid out and planted in flowers, shrubbery, shade, forest and orchard trees, and is the proprietor of undoubtedly the finest nursery in Southeastern Nebraska. The whole is so arranged, subdivided and laid out as to strike the visitor with pleasurable surprise. The arrangement of the various beds and groves is most artistic, and one is immediately impressed most profoundly with the idea that the proprietor of the nursery is no tyro in his chosen calling. In addition to this Mr. Harris has seventy acres on section 34 of Nemaha Precinct, upon which his beautiful residence has been erected. Twenty-five acres of the above have been brought to a very high state of cultivation, and as rapidly as possible the remainder of the property will be the same. Here, as in the nursery proper, it is one pleasing picture of true artistic arrangement of form, shade and tone of coloring. The above property is situated about one-half mile from the limits of Tecumseh, and therefore readily accessible at all times from the city.

Although there is every appearance that this gentleman has occupied the nursery grounds and his other property for many years, as a matter of

fact, in the spring of 1883 Mr. Harris came to it and found it in nowise differing from the surrounding prairie. It was in a virgin state, and not a furrow had ever been turned upon it. No house was there, nor improvement of any kind; everything that has been done he has effected since that time. His exhibit at the State Fair has taken the first and second premiums, and also at the County Fair year after year. His home is in keeping with his other property. Substantially built, of good design and artistic finish, its interior presents nothing whatever incongruous with the surroundings, and indeed is such as would be an honor to a much older and more wealthy city than Tecumseh. He has now over 100,000 apple trees and at least forty varieties of shade and ornamental trees. His stock is very large, and includes many varieties of plants, flowers and trees not to be found in the average nursery. Only those who have seen the place and been enabled to spend sufficient time to take in the situation will be able fully to appreciate the picturesqueness and value of this property. It is a very dream of beauty.

William R. Harris, the subject of this biography, was born in Logan County, Ky., on the 7th of March, 1842. In the schools of the county he was educated and was brought up on the farm of his father. He remained at home until 1861, when on the outbreak of the Rebellion his native county was overrun with the rebel soldiery and their sympathizers. They tried to force him into their ranks, but he was a strong Union man and did not propose to be forced into supporting the cause of those who sought to disrupt the best Government on earth. He, with a party of other young men, took advantage of a dark night, and piloted by one thoroughly acquainted with the region, made their way through the rebel lines and safely reached the Union Army. By request of his father he did not at that time join the Union Army as he desired to do. The rebels in his native county had threatened to destroy or confiscate the property of Union men, who themselves, or their sons, entered the National Army. Our subject remained with an uncle in Illinois until the fall of 1862, when he returned to Kentucky, at the time when the rebel Bragg made his raid into that State. Buell's army



fell back to Louisville, and our subject remained at Bowling Green, employed in buying supplies for the army. During 1863 and 1864 he was in the secret service and did some independent scouting, rendering very valuable service to the Government. On account of this, and to punish him, the rebel guerrillas made a raid on his father, robbing and maltreating him and threatening his life. Raising a party our subject rescued his father and his property and conducted him to Illinois. He then returned to the scene of his labors in Kentucky. Rebel guerrillas had by this time become very numerous in that part of the State, and his untiring energy in ferreting out their rendezvous and bringing the Union troops on them so annoyed them that in their usual barbarous style they offered a reward of \$1,000 for him "dead or alive." His operations were mainly in the district lying between the Ohio and Cumberland Rivers, and he was in a number of engagements in that region. He was employed in watching the movements of Morgan, Adam Johnson, Dave Thomas, Pink White, and other of the raiders who infested that part of the country, and was in many exciting scenes and had many close calls. For months at a time he never slept in a house, lying out in the woods, always on the lookout for the enemy. His principal and best work at this time was in going alone at night to hunt up the rendezvous of the squad of guerrillas. Making a discovery he would take a squad of men and often succeeded in bagging the entire gang.

On these lonely reconnoitering tours he was liable at any time to run into a band of the enemy, and had to travel constantly with pistol in hand and ready for either flight or fight at a moment's notice. It took an iron nerve, but our subject never haltered or wavered. He traveled over 4,000 miles on horseback carrying despatches. He was at various times attached to the 35th Kentucky Mounted Infantry and the 26th and 8th Kentucky Cavalry. Once he was taken prisoner by the Louisiana tigers, and twice by the guerrillas, but was not recognized as the noted scout on whose head a price was set, and he was released. These and many other hairbreadth escapes and thrilling incidents our subject experienced during his valuable and trying service for the country of his fathers.

Mr. Harris, Sr., was operating a general stock and grain farm when our subject rejoined him on the return of peace, and he also took land and went to farming. He was there until March, 1873, when he sold out to good advantage and came to Nebraska. While in Illinois he celebrated his marriage with Miss Amanda Boling, of Mackinaw, in the same county. This occurred on the 1st of February, 1865. Upon coming to this State Mr. and Mrs. Harris settled in Center Precinct, about six miles northwest of Tecumseh. There he purchased a quarter-section of prairie land and speedily set about the work of improving the same. When he left it he had succeeded so well in his endeavor that it had the finest orchard and the best shade trees of any farm in the district. He had planted about fifteen acres of orchard and grove, and the fourth year after planting out his orchard gathered over 500 bushels of apples from it and the same amount of other fruit. The subsequent years he obtained from 800 to 1,000 bushels of peaches, and thus from his fruit alone, exclusive of all that came to him from his farm proper, was making money.

Beyond a doubt Mr. Harris has both the knowledge and energy, supplemented by the means, to make money out of Nebraska soil, as every succeeding year abundantly testifies. He continued on the above farm until 1882, when, meeting with most advantageous terms from a financial point of view, he sold it. The following year he purchased his present property, since which time, as mentioned above, he has wrought the transformation at once so brilliant and pleasing. It is hardly necessary to remark that being the only nursery in the vicinity of any pretensions, and situated so near the city, it is a very valuable property. Mr. Harris is exceedingly particular to keep his stock pure, and with his own hands does the cutting from the most perfect trees, and all his own grafting, and is enabled therefore to warrant all stock, knowing exactly every point connected with its culture.

The subject of our sketch is an active member of the State Board of Horticulture, and is the first Vice-President of the same. He has filled the Presidential chair of the Johnson County Agricultural Society, is Secretary of Johnson County Horticultural Society, also President of the Johnson County

Canning Association. For six years he filled the office of School Director for his district, and has several times been a delegate to the State Republican Convention at Lincoln. Religiously, he is connected with the Presbyterian Church and is a prominent member of the same, occupying the office of Director therein and also that of Elder. In the Sunday-school he has been either Superintendent or teacher during the whole of the past twenty-two years. In every circle, whether social, commercial or religious, Mr. Harris receives the unqualified regard and esteem of all who know him, being a man consistent in every regard to his religious profession, of unblemished honor and strict business integrity, a man of exemplary character and unquestioned position in the community.

Mrs. Harris was born in Ohio, near the town of Dayton, on the 24th of December, 1840, and removed with her parents to Tazewell County, Ill., which was her home until her marriage. She is the daughter of Alexander and Harriet (Barrett) Boling, both of whom were born in Culpeper County, Va., and afterward removed to Ohio. The chosen occupation of her father was that of husbandry. This he continued to follow until his death in 1871. His widow survived him until the year 1877, when she also departed this life, having lived to the mature age of seventy-three years. They were strongly attached to the Baptist Church and actively engaged in supporting its interests and extending the knowledge of its principles.

William B. Harris, the father of our subject, was born in Warren County, Ky., Aug. 22, 1813. Later he removed to Logan County and engaged in teaching, and while there he met the lady who afterward became his wife, and was united in marriage March 15, 1836. The maiden name of his wife was Harriet B. Paisley, of Kentucky. He continued in Logan County, engaged in teaching school for about fourteen years. During this time he studied for the ministry and was subsequently ordained a clergyman of the Presbyterian Church, and officiated in Logan, Todd and Christian Counties. He continued active in his profession in that district until he was compelled to leave, as above related.

Mrs. W. B. Harris was born on the 15th of Oc-

tober, 1817, and died in 1880, aged sixty-three years. She was the mother of twelve children, all of whom it was her pleasure to bring to maturity. She was a most estimable lady, and, whether in the domestic circle, in the church, or in society at large, she was everywhere admired and beloved by reason of the beauty of her Christian character and true womanhood. The Rev. Mr. Harris is still in Tazewell County, and, although advanced in years, still occupies the pulpit occasionally. His last charge was at West Union. He has always been a very active worker in his profession, and a man full of energy. His son, Waldo B. Harris, is a Congregational minister, and is now located at Mazon, Ill.; another of his sons is J. S. Harris, the able attorney of Tecumseh.

William Harris, the grandfather of our subject, was also one of the veteran and honored clergymen of the Presbyterian Church. He was born in Pennsylvania; his life work, however, is associated chiefly with the State of Kentucky. There he married Miss High Smith. There were born to them seventeen children, twelve sons and five daughters. These all came to years of maturity, and entered honorable positions in life. Six were ordained clergymen in the same communion as their father, and several of them won distinguished honors in connection with their work in that profession.

WILLIAM E. CARMAN, a member of the prominent family of this name in Johnson County, and a successful farmer and stock-raiser of Spring Creek Precinct, is the owner of a good homestead on section 29, where he is prosecuting agriculture to the best advantage, and acquitting himself as a peaceful and law-abiding citizen. He was born in Cass County, Ill., Feb. 9, 1865, and is the son of Hon. A. A. Carman, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work.

Our subject was brought by his parents to this county when but a few months old, and here has spent his entire life, thus becoming identified with its best interests, acquiring his education in the district school, and spending his life mostly upon a farm. In the summer of 1885, being desirous of



establishing a home and domestic ties of his own, he was united in marriage, July 4, to one of the most estimable young ladies of this precinct, Miss Alberta Orourke. Mrs. Carman is a native of Mason County, Ill., and was born Feb. 17, 1866. Her parents were John A. and Arminda Orourke, and the mother died in Nebraska in 1873. Mr. O. subsequently migrated to New Mexico, where he is now living.

Mr. and Mrs. Carman are the happy parents of one child, a daughter, named after her maternal grandmother, Arminda, and who was born Sept. 5, 1888. The snug homestead of our subject embraces eighty acres of good land, upon which he is operating with excellent judgment, and which yields him a good income. He is a Republican, politically, and both he and his estimable wife occupy a good social position in their precinct, and enjoy the esteem and confidence of a large circle of friends.

Mr. Orourke, father of Mrs. Carman, is a native of Ireland, whence he emigrated early in life before his marriage. The mother was born in Mason County, Ill. They came to Nebraska about 1867, where the father remained a few years, then pushed farther toward the frontier, landing in New Mexico.



**H**ENRY LANDWEIR, a pioneer of Johnson County, is a fine representative of its stock-raising and agricultural interests, and his successful career since coming here well illustrates what a poor man, with the right amount of energy, determination and courage, can do by persistent and well-directed labor, on the exceedingly fertile farming lands of Nebraska. He has a large farm in Helena Precinct, which is highly improved and is the source of a fine income, so that he is now numbered among the substantial, well-to-do citizens of the community.

Mr. Landweir is a native of Germany, and his early boyhood days were passed in the Fatherland. In 1848, when a lad of twelve years, he came to America with his parents, William and Mary Landweir. They located in Baltimore, Md., and staid in that city for a year, and then went to Cincinnati, Ohio. Later they removed to Indiana, and there

spent their declining years. They were honest, sober-minded people, whose kind hearts and many good qualities gained for them the respect and esteem of the people among whom they settled.

When our subject was twenty years old he went to Indiana, where he lived until 1869. In that year he decided to try farming on the rich, alluvial soil of Johnson County, Neb., and coming here, he purchased 160 acres of land on section 10, Helena Precinct, which is now included in his present farm. He had but \$900 at the time, and he put that into his future home, and set to work with a will to the pioneer task of upbuilding it from the wild prairie. Not a furrow had been turned on his land, and there was but a small shanty for the shelter of his family. In a few years he has brought about a wondrous change. A substantial dwelling has taken the place of the humble shanty, and he has erected a good stable, granaries, corn cribs and other necessary buildings, and his farm is amply supplied with all the modern labor-saving machinery for carrying on agriculture. He has been so prospered in his venture that he has been enabled to enlarge the boundaries of his estate by further purchase of land, until he now owns 480 acres of as valuable farming land as is to be found under Nebraska's sunny skies. This is all utilized either as tillage or pasture land, for besides raising grain, etc., he pays much attention to stock-raising, with eminent success, as is attested by his sleek and well-kept herds of cattle, horses and swine.

Mr. Landweir owns other property besides his farm, having purchased two lots in the new town of Burr, on the Union Pacific Railway, about two miles north of his home, and has erected there a building with a large business room, and a hall above it, which is fitted up in fine style.

Mr. Landweir was married in Cincinnati to Miss Louisa Finka, who has been to him a devoted wife, and has encouraged and assisted him in the upbuilding of his fortune. Their married life has been saddened by the death of the four children born to them.

Our subject is a man of more than ordinary sagacity, foresight and decision of character, and he combines with these good habits and right principles, and these are traits that made him suc-



cessful as a pioneer, and render him a valuable citizen of the county, in whose development he has been such an important factor. In the early days of his settlement here the country round about was still in a wild condition in many places, although since that the rapid strides of civilization have made a great change in the character of the prairies, where are now standing populous towns, that either had no existence then or were but insignificant hamlets, and magnificent and valuable farms are scattered on every hand, with thousands of horses and cattle, where formerly the buffalo used to graze, or deer, antelopes and wolves used to roam. It must be a great pleasure to our subject that by his energy and industry, he has done his full share in bringing about this prosperous state of affairs in his adopted county.



**C**HARLES T. BRADLEY, proprietor of the Bradley House of Tecumseh, the only brick hotel in the city, and patronized largely by commercial travelers, is a fine illustration of the self-made man. He commenced at an early period of his life to earn his living, and acquired those habits of industry and economy which have been the secret of his success. He is known far and wide in this section of country, and universally popular.

The boyhood days of Mr. Bradley were spent in Guilford, Chenango Co., N. Y., where his birth took place May 8, 1825. When a lad eight years of age he accompanied his father to Luzerne County, Pa., where he lived until 1866. The serious business of his life began as an employe of the Delaware & Hudson Canal Railroad Company, greasing car axles, and he was in the employ of this corporation until a young man twenty-three years of age, a fact which speaks well for his industry and fidelity to duty. He was now given charge of an engine, which he operated until taking a position with the Pennsylvania Coal Company.

Young Bradley, it is hardly necessary to say, had kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and now developed into a civil engineer, and in this capacity was occupied during the grading

and construction of the Pennsylvania Coal Company's Railroad. Upon its completion he was again given charge of a stationary engine at Jones settlement in Wayne County, Pa., for a period of five years. He was then changed from Jones settlement to Dunmore. This road was devoted to the transportation of coal for the above-named company, and the station over which Mr. Bradley had charge comprised five cars with a capacity of five tons each. The elevation of the track was 1,800 feet, and when at the summit the train was released from the engine, and by its own momentum descended to the foot of the next elevation, when the operation was repeated in the same manner. The loader track was fifty-one miles long and had twelve summits, some with only a few rods between, and the longest a distance of twelve miles. It usually took a car about twelve hours to make the run. The return track was forty-eight miles in length.

Mr. Bradley was thus occupied for a period of sixteen years, and desirous of seeing something beyond the confines of the Keystone State, disposed of his interests in that region, and in the winter of 1866 made his way to Rock Island, Ill. There he secured employment in a large sawmill, operated by his brother-in-law, P. Skinner. Later Mr. Bradley crossed the Mississippi, and purchased a tract of land in Cass County, Iowa. This he improved into a good farm, which he occupied six or seven years, then sold and moved to Atlantic, Iowa, where he established a large boarding-house, which he conducted successfully two and one-half years.

Upon leaving this point Mr. Bradley became proprietor of the Whitney House at Griswold, Iowa, and there began in earnest his hotel experience. For the various duties connected with this business he seems to have been peculiarly adapted, and has met with rare success. He has officiated as "mine host" most of the time since with the exception of a short period spent in the employ of Reynolds Bros., of Wymore. While with them he assisted in the building of the Denver extension of the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, a distance of ten miles. Mrs. Reynolds, the mother of one of the contractors, about that time put up the Potter House at Wymore, and this Mr. Bradley conducted

for a period of three years, securing for it the reputation of being the best house at that time in the southern part of Gage County.

From Wymore Mr. Bradley removed to Hamburg, where he lived a short time, and thence to Beatrice, purchasing the furniture and fixtures of the Randall House, in the latter city, which he conducted until the 1st of February, 1887. During that month he was busily engaged in preparing the Bradley House for the reception of guests, and since its completion he has enjoyed a fine patronage from the best elements of the traveling public. It will be seen that he must have been a very busy and industrious man during these years, consequently having little time to devote to political affairs. Aside from serving as School Director, he has carefully avoided the responsibilities of office. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity while a resident of Pittston, Pa., and is still connected with the brotherhood. He was for a time a member of the I. O. O. F., but withdrew from that in 1850.

Mrs. Nancy M. (Morse) Bradley, who became the wife of our subject in December, 1850, was born Jan. 23, 1832, in New York, and is the daughter of Horace and Nancy (Jewell) Morse, who were natives of New England, and are now deceased. Of this union there were born three sons, of whom Willard L. died in Pennsylvania when a little lad eight years of age; Frank J. is living in Audubon County, Iowa; he married Miss Emily Trimmer, of that State, and they are the parents of four children: Mabel, who lives with her grandparents; Raymond, Marietta and Ethel. George E., a resident of Tecumseh, married Miss Corris Lowe, of Atlantic, Iowa, and they have one child, a son, Charles.

Albert Bradley, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut, and when a young man left New England and settled in Chenango County, N. Y., where he was married to Miss Electa Jewell. They became the parents of eleven children, all of whom with one exception lived to mature years. The elder Bradley was a doctor by occupation. In 1833 he removed to the vicinity of Carbondale, Pa., where he spent the remainder of his days, passing away in 1861, when about fifty-eight years of age.

During the later years of his life he employed himself as a carpenter. The wife and mother survived her husband a period of twenty-eight years, remaining a widow. She finally returned to Chenango County, N. Y., and there spent her last years, dying at the ripe old age of eighty.

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**D**IGHTON W. HOTALING, County Commissioner and Chairman of the Board of Construction of the new court-house in process of erection, is a gentleman well known throughout Tecumseh and vicinity, where he has made a good record and been entrusted with important interests. The building referred to, and in which the people of Johnson County have a common interest, will, it is expected, be an ornament to the city, as well as credit to the people of the county. It is to cover an area of 66x90 feet, and to be three stories in height, built of Nemaha County stone and St. Joseph pressed brick. The stone work is to be eleven feet above the surface of the ground, the pressed brick concluding a distance of thirty-five feet. The whole is to be topped by a fine Pennsylvania slate roof. The partitions through the first two stories are to be all brick, as well as a part of the third story, with the exception of the portion assigned to court purposes. The whole is to be as near fireproof as possible.

The exterior of the Johnson County Court House it is intended shall be a duplicate of the York County Court House; four porticos eighteen feet square of massive stone and iron cover the four entrances to the building. The structure within is to be finely finished in hard pine. The cornices are to be of galvanized iron and terra cotta. The whole is to be completed for the sum of \$40,000, exclusive of the basement and heating apparatus. The new court-house will occupy the square which comprises an area of 25x25 rods, shaded by a fine growth of trees, which were planted fifteen years ago, and have nearly attained their development in this favorable climate.

The subject of this sketch was born in Schoharie County, N. Y., July 4, 1838. He there spent the days of his boyhood and youth, receiving a practi-



cal education in the common schools, and becoming familiar with farm pursuits. At the age of twenty years he made his way to Ogle County, Ill., where he purchased a tract of land and worked it until after the outbreak of the Civil War. On the 16th of July, 1861, he enlisted with his five brothers in Company A, 2d Illinois Cavalry, which was raised by his brother John R., who after the battle of Ft. Donelson was made Gen. Logan's chief of staff. Dighton W. participated in many of the important battles of that campaign, being at Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, and meeting the enemy in many other engagements and skirmishes. In July of 1863, his health having become greatly affected by hardship and exposure, he was obliged to accept an honorable discharge.

Upon leaving the army Mr. Hotaling returned to his farm in Ogle County, Ill., where he occupied himself until the spring of 1865, bringing about good improvements, and then sold it at an advanced figure. Shortly afterward he came to this State and purchased an improved farm in Vesta Precinct, this county. Later he sold this and located on land in the vicinity of Crab Orchard, while at the same time he purchased land one mile south of Sterling. He operated the two farms, and in 1879 purchased another of 160 acres in the vicinity of Turkey Creek. From that in 1883 he moved upon his present place, one mile southwest of Tecumseh, where he has one of the finest estates in the precinct. The land has been brought to a good state of cultivation, and the residence is one to be proud of. The other farm buildings are fully in keeping with the requirements of the intelligent and progressive agriculturist.

Mr. Hotaling in addition to general agriculture is considerably interested in stock-raising, but finds it more advantageous to rent out his pasture than to cultivate the soil. He keeps a fine assortment of cattle and horses, and about 100 head of swine. He is also the owner of half a block in Tecumseh. Politically, he is the advocate of Republican principles, and has held the various minor offices of his precinct, including those of School Director and County Commissioner.

Miss Maggie Van Valkenburg, of Schoharie County, N. Y., became the wife of our subject

in December, 1863. They are now the parents of seven children, all living and named respectively: Emma, Minnie, Carrie, Stella, Anna, Frank and Frederick. They are all at home with their parents. They have been well educated and carefully trained as becoming the offspring of prominent and well-to-do citizens. The three eldest are engaged in teaching, and the whole family is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Robert Hotaling, the father of our subject, was also a native of Schoharie County, N. Y., and born in 1796. He spent his entire life within the limits of his native county, and followed the peaceful pursuit of agriculture. His death took place in September of 1886, after he had reached the ripe old age of ninety years. The mother was in her girlhood Miss Maria Ritter, and of her union with Robert Hotaling there were born fourteen children, eleven of whom lived to mature years. Five still survive, and are residents of Nebraska and Dakota.

The wife of our subject is a native of the same county as her husband, and was born in April, 1840. Her parents were John J. and Sophia (Smith) Van Valkenburg, the father a farmer by occupation, and a prominent man in his community. The household circle included thirteen children, nine of whom are living, and residents mostly of New York State. The mother passed away at the old home in New York State in April, 1886. Mr. Van V. is still living, and is now ninety years of age.

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**M**ARTIN V. EASTERDAY occupies a well-deserved place among the prominent and progressive farmers of Nemaha Precinct, and is the owner of a fine farm of 480 acres in extent, thoroughly improved in every part, supplied with substantial buildings and an unusually fine residence, all the result of his own continued enterprise and effort. He was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, on the 29th of August, 1825, and remained there until he had attained to the years of young manhood. There he received the preliminaries of his education, finishing the same at Muhlenburg College, after which he was a



successful school teacher for several terms. Leaving the teacher's desk and ferule he turned once more to the farm, and has remained in that vocation for the greater part of his life since.

In October, 1852, Mr. Easterday was married to Margaret J. Huston. To them have been born eight children, of whom five are living, viz: Charles M., Steven A., Horace H., Joseph H. and Philip S. Oliver C. died at the age of twenty-one, and the other two in infancy. Mrs. Easterday was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, on the 28th of June, 1832. She is the daughter of John and Isabella (Drew) Huston. She remained with her parents until her marriage, and is still spared to her family. Her parents were both natives of County Tyrone, Ireland. They came to this country and settled in Jefferson County; his chosen occupation, followed for the greater part of his life, was husbandry, in which he continued, practically, until his death, which occurred in the year 1839. His widow, after her bereavement, did not remarry, but kept the farm, and superintending its operations, succeeded in keeping her family together, and bringing them up as both parents would have desired.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Easterday moved to Montgomery County, Ill., and purchased a farm. There they continued to reside for seventeen years. This was also the place of the birth of their children. He continued engaged in general and stock farming until the year 1871, when he came to Tecumseh and began to look around and inquire into the prospects of this then developing country. His prospecting led him to purchase property which was then partly improved so far as the ground was concerned, but had no buildings worthy of the name. These he supplied and had put up in good style. This was his home for ten years, and he did well every season throughout that time; but finding a purchaser whose offer was unusually appreciative he sold it and purchased the extensive property he now occupies, which he has used ever since, mainly as a stock farm.

It was Mr. Easterday who introduced into the State the Short-horn cattle. He purchased and kept the "Duke of Orleans," a fine imported bull of considerable reputation, and the first to come into

this county; also a few full blooded cows. It was always his desire to raise the grade of stock in the county, and he has done much to that end—probably more than any other single individual. After this he introduced the first imported hogs, and raised the grade of that line of stock also. He is now interested in bringing into the district the Galloway cattle, for which many advantages are claimed. He usually feeds from 175 to 200 head of cattle, besides hogs and horses in large numbers.

Mr. Easterday has probably forty acres devoted to fine forest trees. His orchard contains over 300 fruit trees of various kinds and choice variety; also small fruits of all kinds in profusion. The part of his farm which is devoted to stock is conducted upon model principles, and is brought almost to perfection. The remainder of his farm is well fenced and cultivated.

In 1877 the subject of this sketch was elected County Treasurer, and served two terms. He has also filled in a most satisfactory manner various school and township offices. In the Masonic fraternity he is well and favorably known, and has received the degree of Knight Templar. With his wife Mr. Easterday is a member in good standing of the Universalist Church, and takes pleasure in lending his influence and giving active support to the same. He is a man of marked ability, thoroughly well posted in all necessary and practical points in his business. He is everywhere held in high regard, and enjoys an unusually fine reputation.

Christian Easterday, the father of our subject, was born in Maryland about the year 1792, and in 1800 removed to Jefferson County, Ohio, with his father, who was one of the pioneers of that State. In that section he always lived, following during his active days the occupation of farming. Finally he removed to the home of our subject, then in Illinois, where he died in 1878. He was the husband of Anna M. Stemple. To them were born ten children, eight of whom it was their privilege to bring to mature years. His wife was born in West Virginia, and was the daughter of Daniel Stemple. She lived until about one year previous to her husband's death. She was a most womanly woman, and a true wife and mother. She had the

respect and admiration of those who knew her. Both were members of the Lutheran Church from their youth.

The grandfather of our subject, Martin Easterday, was born in Germany, and came to this country when six years of age, settling in the State of Maryland. There he made his home until 1800, when he removed to Ohio, as above related. The companion of his life was a Miss Bowers. Their farm was cleared from the original forest, but shortly bore marks that indicated the thorough, practical knowledge and ability of the proprietor. It remained for many years in the hands of the family, the members of which were sincerely attached to the old homestead.

The eldest son of our subject, Charles M., is now at Tacoma, W. T.; he is an able attorney-at-law, and enjoys a fine practice. He is married to Miss Minnie Locke, of Brownville, and has two bright and intelligent children, who bear the names Ruth and Fay. Steven A. is at Red Cloud, Neb., and is a railroad postal clerk; he is the husband of Maggie Shaughnessy, of Tecumseh, and they also are the parents of two children, viz: Olive and Midgie. Horace H. is freight agent on the railroad at Red Cloud, and is also married; Joseph H. has recently been admitted to the bar as an attorney, but is not yet located, and is at home the greater part of the time. The youngest son, Philip Sheridan, is also at home, not having yet completed his education.

Our subject and his sons are all staunch Republicans, and take much interest in political matters. This interesting family are among the first in the county, and are certainly worthy of all the esteem accorded them, and appreciate it as heartily as it is given.

**E**NOCH CARMAN, one of the pioneers of Johnson County, lives in Lincoln Precinct, where, on section 7, township 5 north, range 12 east, he owns a fine farm of 202 acres of good land. He was born in Mason County, Ill., March 4, 1846, and is a son of Hon. Alfred A. and Elizabeth Carman, of whom a history appears on another page. He lost his mother when eight years old, and shortly thereafter the family moved to Cass County, Ill.,

where he was reared and received a district school education. In the fall of 1865 the entire family came to Johnson County, Neb., and when of age our subject homesteaded eighty acres of land, which is a part of his present farm, the rest having been added by subsequent purchases, and brought to its present state of high cultivation by hard labor, it having then been nothing but raw prairie.

Mr. Carman was married, Sept. 5, 1869, to Miss Susan J. Vanwinkle, born in Hancock County, Ill., Feb. 7, 1850, and a daughter of James and Sarah Vanwinkle, who are now living in Phillips County, Kan. They came to Johnson County in 1866, and lived here until 1886, when they removed to their present residence. To Mr. and Mrs. Carman have been born four children, of whom the two eldest, Sarah E. and Minnie M., are deceased, and Anna V. and Clara B. now survive.

Both Mr. Carman and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and ardent workers therein. He takes a warm interest also in educational matters, and has served on the board, and is regarded as an upright and honorable man and a trustworthy citizen.

**E**NOS M. SHAW. This well-known citizen of Spring Creek Precinct was born Dec. 26, 1828, in Medina County, Ohio. His parents were James and Minerva S. Shaw, natives respectively of Massachusetts and Virginia. When our subject was fourteen years of age the family removed to Fulton County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. There were but two children in his father's family, himself and his sister Azelia P., now the wife of Henry G. Tingley, of Ionia County, Mich. Our subject's early education was in the district schools. Upon reaching the age of twenty years he began attending the Baldwin University of Berea, Ohio, staying there some six months, but owing to lack of means he was compelled to forego his studies for a time and resort to school teaching to secure the necessary means.

Shortly after the outbreak of the Civil War our subject enlisted, Oct. 24, 1861, in Company E, 68th Ohio Infantry, which became a part of the 17th



Army Corps, and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. They were under command of Gen. John A. Logan, and participated in the battles of Ft. Donelson, Shiloh, the siege and capture of Vicksburg, Champion Hills, Raymond, Jackson, and in several minor engagements. With the greater part of his company he was discharged, and re-enlisted as a veteran Dec. 9, 1863, being assigned to the same company, regiment and corps, and still with the Army of the Tennessee. They were engaged in the Meridian raid and in the principal battles of the Atlanta campaign, including the siege of Atlanta. The regiment participated in Sherman's march to the sea and in his campaign through the Carolinas, being present at Johnston's surrender at Raleigh, N. C., and winding up with the grand review at Washington. He was honorably discharged July 10, 1865.

After his discharge Mr. Shaw returned to Fulton County, Ohio, but soon went to Cameron, Mo., where for eight years he was engaged in the lumber, furniture and agricultural implement business. In the spring of 1874 he came to Johnson County, and located on the place which has ever since been his home. He first bought 160 acres, subsequently adding 120 more, all of which he has now well improved, with substantial and commodious buildings.

The marriage of our subject was celebrated May 1, 1864, in Ohio, Miss Sarah J. Ford being the bride. She was born in Berkshire County, Mass., Dec. 11, 1844, and is the daughter of Charles and Martha P. (Packard) Ford, with whom she came at the age of eight years from her native place to Fulton County. Her parents are both now living in Cameron, Mo. To Mr. and Mrs. Shaw have been born eight children, only three of whom now survive. They are named: Anne A., Charles E. and Edith M.

Mr. Shaw holds a somewhat prominent place in the political and social life of his community. He is a member of the G. A. R. Post at Talmage, and is at present its Commander. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity, affiliating with the lodge at Tecumseh. In 1877 he was elected Justice of the Peace, has been several times re-elected, and has since served continuously. He has also served as Assessor of the precinct several terms. Politically,

he believes in the principles of the Republican party, with which he acts. A prominent and leading citizen in his precinct, he enjoys in a marked degree the respect and confidence of his fellowmen, and is justly regarded as a representative citizen of Johnson County.



**W**ILLIAM HERVEY. When the neighbors of a man among whom he has lived for a number of years universally speak well of him it is sufficient guarantee of his character and standing. The subject of this sketch has fully established himself in the confidence and esteem of those around him, who give cheerful testimony to his worth as a member of the community and one who has been active in the enterprises tending to its welfare and advancement. The fine farm of 160 acres which occupies a portion of section 8, Nemaha Precinct, has for years been familiarly known as the home of our subject, and the improvements thereon are due to his enterprise and industry.

Mr. Hervey was born in West Virginia, March 6, 1833, and lived there until a youth of nineteen years. He received a good practical education and early in life became familiar with the various employments of the farm. In 1852, starting out for himself, he made his way to Peoria County, Ill., where he secured a tract of land and carried on farming a few seasons, then sold out and went to Kansas. A year later he recrossed the Father of Waters, and returning to Illinois made his home for the following eight years in Marshall, Livingston and McLean Counties. He was married, March 7, 1860, to Miss Rachel A. Crow. Their wedded life began in Illinois, and in due time they became the parents of three children—Lilly J., Ellsworth Y. and Elmer D. These are all living, and remain at home with their parents. They have been well educated, and the daughter at times is employed as a teacher. The boys assist their father in the farm work.

Mr. Hervey in 1882 sold one of his farms in Illinois and purchased the quarter-section where he now lives and to which he removed in the spring of 1883. His other land in Illinois he disposed of a few months since (1888). He has been a prominent



man in the community wherever he has made his home, officiating as School Director and giving of his means to every worthy enterprise.

Mrs. Rachel A. (Crow) Hervey was born in Pennsylvania, May 19, 1833. When a young lady she removed to Illinois with her father, Philip Crow, a farmer by occupation, and who spent his last years in Illinois, where his death took place. The mother is still living. Mrs. Hervey received a good education and taught school for some time before her marriage. She and her husband are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church at Tecumseh.

William Hervey, Sr., the father of our subject, was born in Ohio, where he lived until reaching his majority. He then purchased a farm in West Virginia, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying about 1843. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church; he cast his vote with the old Whig party. The mother survived her husband only a few years. Their family consisted of five children, all of whom lived to mature years, and of whom our subject was next to the youngest. William Hervey, Sr., was first married in early manhood to a Miss Glenn, of West Virginia, and they became the parents of eight children, all of whom lived to mature years. This lady died in middle life.



**ON. MILO K. CODY.** The subject of this sketch was numbered at an early date among the pioneers of Elk Creek Precinct, where he is now one of its most extensive land-owners, having 840 acres of some of the finest farming land in this part of Johnson County, and lying adjacent to the village of Elk Creek. The greater part has been brought to a state of cultivation, and a large area is devoted to pasture, Mr. Cody being largely interested in fine stock, comprising Durham and Polled-Angus breeds.

The residence of Mr. Cody, a fine and imposing structure, occupies a commanding situation in the center of the village, within whose limits he also owns other valuable property. He has a two-thirds interest in the brick building, the first brick structure erected in the business portion of the town,

which was put up in 1882, and is now occupied by Mr. McClanahan, owner of the remaining third interest, and son-in-law of our subject. In connection with his son, Mr. Cody also owns a livery stable, operated by the former. On his farm he has about 100 acres of natural timber, besides considerable put out by himself, together with six acres of apple and peach trees, in addition to the smaller fruits. Nothing has been left undone to complete the comforts of one of the finest homes in the county.

The earliest recollections of our subject are of a modest home in Onondaga County, N. Y., where his birth took place July 6, 1821. He lived there with his parents until a lad of fourteen years, then removed with them to Washington County, Ohio. Three years later, young Cody starting out for himself, went to DeWitt County, Ill., but in a year returned to Ohio, and in the summer of 1840 journeyed to Washtenaw County, Mich. He was there engaged in farming two years, and before leaving the Wolverine State bought land in Ionia County, the cultivation and improvement of which he carried on five or six years. Thence, after selling out, he moved to a farm in Dane County, Wis., but two years later, selling out once more, assumed charge of a hotel at Pleasant Branch, eight miles from the city of Madison. Here he officiated as "mine host" for a period of eight years, and was in the meantime appointed Postmaster, which office he held until his removal from the State.

Mr. Cody had been successful in his various enterprises, but had not yet settled upon a location which fully met with his requirements. He now determined to make an experiment in the Territory of Nebraska, and accordingly in the summer of 1859 visited this county, and purchased land one and one-half miles south of Elk Creek. Here he has since operated, and in the meantime he added to his real estate until at one time he was the owner of 1,400 acres of land. He has given each of his sons and daughters 160 acres, and disposed of some besides this. The 160 acres which he retains as his homestead is amply watered by the Great Nemaha, which runs along the southeast corner of the farm.

Since the time of his coming here our subject has been identified with local affairs, and that same

year was elected County Treasurer, serving acceptably two years, and collecting the taxes for three years. Subsequently he was elected County Judge, serving two years. During this time his office was in Tecumseh, but he still retains his residence in Elk Creek. He was next given a seat in the Territorial Legislature for two terms, although not in succession. His jurisdiction for the first term extended over the counties of Johnson, Gage, Clay, Jones and Saline. The last term he was the first Representative elected for Johnson County alone. During his service in the Legislature he was placed on important committees, including that of Ways and Means, and was also Chairman of the Library Board. The Legislature at that time met in the young town of Omaha, which gave little indication of its future importance. He has officiated as Justice of the Peace for many years, has served with the Board of Elections, and been identified with school matters, in which he always maintains a lively interest. Socially, he is a Knight of Pythias, and in religious matters, a devout member of the Christian Church at Elk Creek, in which he is a Trustee.

Miss Mary Baldwin, a native of Allegany County, N. Y., became the wife of our subject at McConnellsville, Morgan Co., Ohio, Jan. 14, 1841. Mrs. Cody was born Nov. 6, 1822, and is a daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Hayes) Baldwin. When she was a child of eight years, her parents crossed over into the Dominion of Canada, where they lived three and one-half years, the father engaged in farming. Thence Mrs. C. returned to the States, and located in Harrison County, Ohio, her parents in the meantime having died in Canada. She was a resident of the Buckeye State until her marriage. Of her union with our subject there were born five children, four of whom are living, namely: George W., a resident of Fresno, Cal.; Zach Taylor, of Elk Creek; Horace A., of Elk Creek, and Caroline A. McClanahan.

George W., the eldest son of our subject, married Miss Mary Gray, of this county, and they have three children, sons—Thorley, Harvey P. and Milo K., Jr. This son is engaged in the real-estate business in Fresno County, Cal. Zach Taylor married Miss Sarah Simons, and makes his home with his father on the farm, although engaged in the livery

business at Elk Creek; Horace A. occupies himself at Elk Creek; Caroline A. is the wife of T. W. H. McClanahan, a hardware merchant of Elk Creek, and they have three children—Archie, Fannie and Cleveland.

The father of our subject, Daniel Cody, was born in Worcester, Mass., about 1779. He was reared a farmer's boy, and carried on agriculture, first in his native State, then in New York and Ohio. His death took place in Columbia County, the latter State, in 1844. He had married in New York State, in early manhood, Miss Hannah Manley, who was born in Massachusetts, but who removed with her parents to the Empire State early in life. The parental household included eleven children, among them two pairs of twins. Milo K. was the youngest of the family. The mother after the death of her husband removed to Michigan with her son Milo, and lived with him fourteen years. She then went back to Ohio, and died at the residence of her son in Washington County, about 1874.

Mr. Cody is the oldest living resident of Elk Creek Precinct, and has witnessed with the keenest interest its transformation from an uncultivated tract of land to a civilized and intelligent community, who are in the enjoyment of the comforts of life, living upon pleasant homesteads, and having around them modern conveniences. His career has been distinguished by that generous liberality which has caused him to interest himself in those matters pertaining to the general welfare of the people, and he has given a cordial and substantial support to the projects calculated to insure their standing, socially, morally and financially. He numbers scores of friends among the people of Johnson County, who have rendered him due appreciation as the reward of his generous labors among them and in their behalf.

**J**AMES DEULEN, a prominent figure among the enterprising men of Crab Orchard, owns and operates one of its finest livery lines, and has one of the best outfits in the county. He was formerly a successful farmer, owning and operating land in Western Precinct. In 1884 he invested a portion of his capital in his present en-



terprise, which proved a fortunate venture, bringing him a liberal patronage. His residence is in the southern part of town. He is a prominent figure in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and uniformly votes the straight Republican ticket.

The subject of this sketch was born in Greene County, Ill., Oct. 29, 1850, and is the son of Kelen and Sarah (Dawson) Deulen, the former also a native of Greene County, Ill., and the latter of Hamilton County, Ohio. The father was a farmer by occupation, which he carried on in Illinois during his younger years. In 1863 he left his native county and settled in Wayne County, Iowa. The father is deceased; the mother now resides in Filley, Neb.

Mr. Deulen when a youth of sixteen years crossed the Mississippi into Wayne County, Iowa, where he was employed at farming three years. In 1869 he returned to his native county, and for seven years thereafter was employed as a farm laborer. He took up his residence in Montgomery County, Ill., in 1873, where he carried on farming for a period of ten years. Then he came to Nebraska in January, 1883, sojourning for a time in Beatrice, and in the meantime purchased a tract of land two and one-half miles southeast of Crab Orchard. He only lived there until December, 1884, when he purchased an interest in the livery business of L. V. Hunt, and remained in partnership with this gentleman until July, 1886, when he became sole proprietor. His horses and vehicles are valued at \$3,500, and he receives the patronage of the best people of Crab Orchard and vicinity.

Mr. Deulen while a resident of Montgomery County, Ill., was married, Oct. 28, 1874, to Miss Lucy Rummons. This lady was born in Warren County, Mo., and is the daughter of John and Juliet (Pringle) Rummons, who were natives of Warren County, Mo., and are now deceased. To Mr. and Mrs. Deulen there have been born three children, one of whom died when four months old. Charlie and Edna, the survivors, are thirteen and eleven years old respectively. The little family occupy a pleasant home in the southern part of town, and extend a generous hospitality to hosts of friends. Mr. Deulen was elected Constable in 1885, and is a member of the Town Council and the School Board. Wide-awake and energetic, he takes

a lively interest in the prosperity of his community, and is active in those enterprises tending to this end.



**C**ASSIUS P. ROBINSON. Of the farming community of this county few are more worthy to represent that industry in this district than the gentleman whose property is situated on section 29 of Vesta Precinct, and whose name is placed at the head of this sketch. He was born in Erie County, Pa., on the 2d of March, 1847. His father, John Robinson, is a native of Columbus, Ohio. In bringing up his son Cassius he provided him with every opportunity to obtain a fair English education, and when not thus engaged he was fully employed in various duties about the farm.

Mr. Robinson came to this county in 1878, and has since made it his home. He settled upon his present farm in 1883, and owns 200 acres of excellent farming land. He makes graded stock a specialty, and as a stock-raiser has long enjoyed a large measure of success. He is the owner of one of the finest farms of the county. On the 14th of December, 1870, he celebrated his union with Alice E. Shaw, the daughter of George Shaw. She was born in Hancock County, Ohio, but for several years prior to her marriage she had been a resident of this county. After her marriage she became the mother of six children, whose names are as here given: Sherman C., Hattie M., Birdie S., Elizabeth M., John C. and Harrison K.

Mr. Robinson is a Justice of the Peace. He has also held several other local offices, always doing so in a most satisfactory manner. He is a staunch friend and advocate of the principles of the Christian Church, in whose communion his membership has been for many years, and is also a prominent member of the A. O. U. W. He is a man who, although always ready and willing to take up any responsibility that comes to him as a citizen, at the same time does not care for the official chair, whether in the lodge or elsewhere. Nevertheless he has been prevailed upon to fill some offices, always performing every duty connected therewith



in a conscientious and thoroughly impeccable manner. He has won and retained the regard of his fellows, and is one of that class of worthy men who are the better and not the worse for knowing; in fact a long acquaintance with our subject is almost necessary to the complete appreciation of the many happy and favorable qualities with which he is endowed.



**T**HOMAS McCLURE is one of the practical and successful general farmers of Todd Creek Precinct, and the owner of an extensive and thoroughly improved farm of 1,185 acres, part of which is in Maple Grove Precinct. The home farm contains 685 acres, and is mostly situated on section 23. He first came to this State in May, 1858, when he took up a quarter-section claim in Nemaha County, and lived upon the same for six years, but selling that property, he in 1866 purchased that he now owns.

At the time of his settlement our subject found his farm in an entirely undeveloped and primitive condition. All the improvements that may be seen to-day are the result of his characteristic, intelligent management and continued effort. His stock farm is one of the best in the district, and is worthy of more than passing remark. He has provided a complete set of necessary farm buildings and sheds, and has embarked in the enterprise with zest. He chiefly raises and feeds cattle of the Galloway and Polled-Angus breeds, and has usually about 150 head on his farm. He also breeds large numbers of draft horses, for which a ready market is found.

Our subject built his house in 1876, and it is a perfect model farmhouse, substantially built, admirably designed, and furnished with taste and even elegance. He, although a somewhat prominent citizen, avoids all politics, excepting that of the exercise of his right of ballot, which is usually in favor of the Republican party. In the Masonic fraternity he is well known and always favorably received, and has been admitted to the degree of a Royal Arch Templar.

Mr. McClure was born on the 1st of November, 1835, in Darke County, Ohio, and continued to live

there until his parents removed to Indiana, when he was two years of age. Subsequently they went to Illinois, and settled in Lee County, where he received his education in the common schools. From his earliest years he has been conversant with farm work and surroundings of an agricultural nature. It was not therefore without a certain fitness of things that he should determine to make husbandry his chosen calling in life. This he did in that county, where he continued to live until 1853. For the next five years his home was in Appanoose County, Iowa, but he sold his property there in 1858 and came to Nebraska.

Since coming to this State our subject has been more successful, financially, than ever before, and has seen his prosperity making unparalleled and unexpected strides. He was married on the 28th of November, 1860, the lady of his choice being Miss Ellen Ball, of Appanoose County, Iowa. There have been born to them six children, all of whom are still living. Their names are as follows: Hannah, Hester, Ira, Nina, Idella and Daisy. They are in attendance at the classes of the schools of the district, and are laying good foundations for future usefulness.

The wife of our subject was born in Monroe County, Ohio, in the year 1832, and continued to live there until she had grown out of girlhood; then, with her parents, she went to Iowa, and continued to make her home with them there until her marriage. She is the daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Snyder) Ball, natives of Maryland. Mr. Ball is now residing in California, living a retired life. His wife died in the year 1880. Hannah, the daughter of Mr. McClure, was born in May, 1866, and was, it is believed, the first female child born to a permanent settler in Todd Creek Precinct.

The father of our subject was born in the North of Ireland, in County Antrim, and continued to make his home there until he came to this country as a young man. He first settled in Pennsylvania, but kept moving westward, and lived subsequently in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, and, lastly, in this State. In each he has followed farming as his chosen occupation. Before leaving the old country he married Mary Jane Young, of the North of Ireland, and there came to them nine children, of

whom eight live to mature years and six are still living. He was extensively engaged in farming, and finally removed to Table Rock, Pawnee County, where he lived a retired life until his death, in 1880, when he was about eighty-five years of age.

Daniel McClure, who is widely known in connection with his grain business at Elk Creek, is a brother of our subject, and the only one who is in this State, the other members of the family being scattered through different Eastern and Western States.



**WILLIAM SUTTON.** The gentleman whose name stands at the head of this sketch is carrying on farming successfully in Spring Creek Precinct, operating a valuable tract of land on section 17. An Ohio man by birth, he first opened his eyes to the light in Perry County, that State, in March, 1832, and is the son of Joseph and Hannah E. (Grimes) Sutton, who were natives of County Carlow, Ireland. William was the youngest in a family of ten children, and when about one year old his parents removed to Hocking County, Ohio, where he was reared to manhood, and became familiar with the various pursuits of farm life. Being in a section of country where schools were not very plentiful, his education was rather limited, but he possessed intelligence and sound common sense, and has made his way in the world where many a scholar has failed.

In the fall of 1854, when Mr. Sutton was a young man of twenty-two years, he removed westward with his parents to Lee County, Ill., where the father still prosecuted agricultural pursuits, and where his death took place in March, 1874. The mother survived her husband six years, dying in July, 1880. Five of their children are still living. William, on the 26th of March, 1867, was united in marriage with Miss Electa Chapin, the wedding taking place at the home of the bride in Illinois. Mrs. Sutton was born in Medina County, Ohio, Sept. 17, 1838, and is the daughter of Levi and Eliza (Hamilton) Chapin, the father a native of Massachusetts, and the mother of New York State. They were among the earliest settlers of Medina

County; the father passed away in 1886, and the mother in 1874. They spent their last years in Medina County, Ohio.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sutton settled on a farm in Lee County, Ill., where Mr. S. carried on farming until the fall of 1880, then resolved to cross the Father of Waters and cast his lot with the people of this county. He settled soon afterward on his present farm of 160 acres, and has effected most of the improvements the passing traveler observes to-day with interest. It has taken both good management and wise economy to make agriculture profitable on his farm, but with the assistance of his estimable and sensible wife, who has been at all times a safe and wise counselor, he is making good headway toward a competency for his old age. He votes the straight Democratic ticket, and endeavors to square his life by the Golden Rule. Mrs. Sutton is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the family have gathered around them many friends since their sojourn in Spring Creek Precinct.

The union of our subject and his wife resulted in the birth of four children, one of whom, Arthur L., died when six months old, in Illinois. The survivors are: Lizzie E., born Feb. 27, 1869; Tal C., born Jan. 19, 1871; and Harry H., born Feb. 2, 1873. They are all at home, and prove of great service, not only in lightening the labors of the homestead and household, but form the joy and pride of their parents.



**JOHN P. PRICE**, a son of one of Johnson County's first settlers, has been identified with the most important interests of the county, but is now living retired from business in the pleasant town of Smartville, he having acquired a competence by untiring industry and the shrewd management of his affairs. Mr. Price is a native of Kentucky, and a son of Robert and Nancy Price, who were also born in that State. They came to Nebraska June 10, 1856, and were among the first pioneers of Johnson County, and here the father perished in a storm, on the 11th day of December, the same year. The mother of



our subject subsequently became the wife of the founder of Smartville, Mr. Robert Smart, and is now living here with him, at an advanced age. For further parental history see sketch of Robert Smart, on another page of this volume.

Our subject spent his early years in his Kentucky home, and subsequently accompanied his parents to Nebraska. They first located in Spring Creek, about five miles from Tecumseh, and to them belongs the honor of having built the first house in that vicinity. Our subject lived there until 1874, when he bought a farm west of Sterling, and for some years was engaged in agricultural pursuits, developing a fine farm from the prairies. He continued in that occupation until 1880, when he came to Smartville, and turned his attention to the grain and stock business, which he continued until about the middle of August, 1888, when he had a fine opportunity to dispose of his business at a large profit, and he did so, and has since been living on his income, an all-sufficient one, in his cozy home in Smartville.

The marriage of Mr. Price to Miss Ann Lawson took place in this county in August, 1870, and has been blessed to them by the birth of seven children, now living.

Mr. Price is prominent in social and political circles in Johnson County. He is identified with both the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, being a member of Sterling Lodge No. 63, I. O. O. F., and of Sterling Lodge No. 31, K. of P. Politically, he is one of the leading Democrats of Smartville, and that party has no firmer supporter than he. He is a man of good habits, sound principles, and of varied information, and in him Smartville finds one of her best citizens.



**H**ENRY MOLLER, who holds a good position among the farmers and stock-raisers of the precinct of Spring Creek, and has by his industry and perseverance built up a good homestead pleasantly located on section 16, is a native of Sleswick-Holstein, Germany; he was born Jan. 22, 1842. He is the son of Jorgen and Maria (Fabian) Moller, and is now the youngest of their

living children. He received a fair education, both in the Danish and German tongue, and has all his life been familiar with agricultural pursuits.

Mr. Moller spent his youth and early manhood in his native Province, but in 1868 set his face toward the New World, taking passage at the port of Hamburg on the steamer "Saxonia," which landed him safely in New York City after a voyage of fourteen days. Thence he made his way directly to Franklin County, Ind., where he worked as a farm laborer one year, then crossing the Mississippi, was employed on a farm near the city of St. Louis, Mo., for a period of three years. Upon leaving there he came to Nebraska, working first on a farm in Nemaha County, but in January, 1873, came to this county and invested a portion of his hard-earned capital in eighty acres of land upon which he now lives. This was a school tract for which he paid \$7 per acre. In due time he added forty acres to his first purchase, having now 120 acres, all of which has been brought to a good state of cultivation.

Not a furrow had been turned upon the land of Mr. Moller when he first took possession, neither were there any fences nor buildings. The task before him would have dismayed many a man, but he had inherited from his German ancestry that spirit of resolution and perseverance which would admit of no such word as fail, and he has been amply rewarded. The farm is nearly all enclosed with beautiful hedge fencing, while the dwelling and barns are noticeable, together with the other out-buildings, as being amply adapted to the purposes of farm life.

Mr. Moller was without means upon his arrival in America, and has consequently been the architect of his own fortune, having received assistance from no one save his industrious and estimable wife. To this excellent lady, who in her girlhood was Miss Annie M. Berg, he was married Dec. 6, 1874, at her home in this precinct. Mrs. Moller was born Aug. 4, 1860, in New York, and is the daughter of Harmon H. and Elizabeth (Vahly) Berg, who were natives of Germany. The mother is deceased; the father resides in this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Moller there have been born two daughters: Annie M. E., Oct. 3, 1877, and Dora, July 27, 1884. Mr. and Mrs. M. are members in good standing of the Lu-



theran Church, and our subject, politically, is a trustworthy Republican. He takes a genuine interest in the advancement of his adopted county, and has served as School Moderator in his district for the past three years. He uses about three work horses in his farm operations, and usually keeps a herd of fourteen head of cattle with forty head of swine, from the proceeds of which he realizes a handsome sum. He is a man whom his neighbors hold in high respect, as one whose word is considered as good as his bond.



**J**AMES W. COOK, well known throughout Helena Precinct and vicinity, owns and occupies a good farm on section 10, and is numbered among the thrifty and well-to-do agriculturists along the northern line of Johnson County. A native of Brown County, Wis., he was born June 27, 1853, and is the son of Andrew and Hannah (Clulo) Cook, the former of whom is still living, and a resident of Tecumseh. The mother died about 1878.

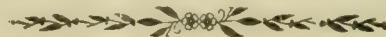
Our subject came to Nebraska with his parents when a small boy, they settling first in Otoe County. About 1864 they changed their residence to Johnson County, the father securing a tract of land in Helena Precinct, and which is now owned and occupied by our subject. Their first shelter was a rude log house, flanked by a log stable in which were sheltered the horses and the limited number of other live stock. A few acres had been broken, and these constituted the improvements upon a tract of land which is now numbered among the valuable estates of this county. Andrew Cook was a man of great energy and industry, and was prospered in his labor. He retired from its cares and responsibilities about 1872, taking up his abode with the family in Tecumseh, where he is still living.

The father of our subject was three times married, there being born of his first union, with Hannah Clulo, seven children, who are recorded as follows: Elizabeth, the wife of Donald McCuaig, lives in Nebraska City; John W., Charles C., Edward, Andrew, and James W., our subject, are residents of this county; Lucy, Mrs. S. H. Fullerton,

lives in Atchison, Kan. The father is a man of decided views and excellent judgment, one whose opinion was generally respected in his community. He served for a time as County Commissioner and Justice of the Peace, and during his long and useful career filled many other positions of trust and responsibility. In his old age he is surrounded by hosts of friends, and may look with pardonable satisfaction upon a well-spent life. He identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church many years ago, and has been one of its pillars for years in this county.

James W. Cook, our subject, was reared to man's estate at the homestead in Helena Precinct, receiving a practical education in the common schools. He has witnessed many changes within the last twenty years, and like his father before him, is no unimportant factor in the growth and prosperity of Johnson County. With the exception of four years spent as clerk in a mercantile establishment in Tecumseh, he has been from his boyhood up continuously engaged in agricultural pursuits.

Our subject was married, Aug. 11, 1876, to Miss Rillia Talliaferro, who was born July 7, 1855, in Platte County, Mo., and lived with her parents until their death, then made her home with her sister in Iowa until her marriage. His parents were natives of Ohio and Illinois, and are now deceased. Of this union there are three children: Nellie, born Aug. 12, 1877; Lou, Jan. 27, 1879, and Belle, Oct. 23, 1884. The Cook homestead embraces 200 acres of finely improved land, with good buildings, and both in his agricultural and stock-raising operations our subject has been uniformly successful. He is a Republican, politically, and a member and Treasurer of the School Board in his district. Both he and his estimable wife number their friends by the score in their neighborhood and vicinity.



**L**AURENCE W. HOSICK has firmly established himself as one of the capable, reliable citizens, and practical and prosperous farmers of this county. He owns and operates 160 acres of good farming land, which is situated on section 27, township 6 north, range 11 east. He is

an Illinoisan, and was born in Marshall County on the 8th of January, 1855, and is the son of James and Dorothea E. Hosick, who are natives of West Virginia, and are of Irish extraction. They are now residing in Nemaha Precinct, this county.

Our subject is the eldest of six children born to his parents, whose names are as here appended: Lawrence W., Willard T.; Lulu M., who is married to E. A. Ingersoll, of Johnson County, Neb.; Alma S., Zeldia E., James F. The parents migrated from West Virginia to Marshall County, Ill., in the year 1854, being among the very early settlers in the county. They continued to make it their home until 1880, at which time they removed to this county and took up their present farm. They are identified with the membership of the Presbyterian Church at Tecumseh, and in that communion Mr. Hosick, Sr., has served in the Eldership for a number of years. In politics he is a firm Republican.

Until he attained to his majority our subject continued to live in the old home, and was brought up amid the pioneer scenes of his native county. From his earliest recollection he has been connected with farm life, and at an early age began to perform the various duties that his development and intellect placed within his power. He was united in wedlock with Barentha Buck, on the 24th of September, 1878, who is the daughter of Lewis and Sarah Buck, who were born in Indiana. The father is living in Peoria, Ill.; the mother departed this life in the year 1877. Three children have been born to our subject and his wife. These have been named as follows: Ora N. was born Jan. 27, 1880; Harry E., Aug. 1, 1881; and a babe unnamed, Oct. 19, 1888.

In the spring of 1879 our subject removed to Sumner County, Kan. There he engaged in farming, and continued to live about fifteen months. At the end of that period he went to Nemaha Precinct, in this county, but only remained until the spring of 1881, when he came to their present property, which is eighty acres in extent, and is one of the best cultivated in the precinct.

Mr. Hosick is at present serving his school district as Moderator. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church, and are regarded as among the most consistent and devout in the com-

munion, and are much valued and worthy members of the community, where they are held in high regard. Politically, our subject is a Republican, and an active member of the party, and one who has been identified with it for many years.



**J**AMES S. BLYTHE. The subject of this sketch occupies a worthy and exalted position among the leading farmers and stock-growers of Nemaha Precinct. He is pleasantly located on section 32, where he owns and operates 160 acres of land, is sheltered by a handsome and substantial residence, and has around him all the comforts and conveniences of the modern rural homestead. As a man and a citizen he enjoys the esteem and confidence of all who know him.

Mr. Blythe was born in Tennessee, Jan. 26, 1824, and seven years later was taken by his parents to Arkansas. Subsequently they returned to their native State, settling in Memphis for a time, and thence removed, in 1837, to Texas, and there the father died that same year. The mother remained in Texas, where she lived some years, and where her death took place in 1853. The father of our subject was born in North Carolina, and during the early years of his life engaged in merchandising. He and his wife, Theodosia (Trigg) Blythe, became the parents of thirteen children, eleven of whom lived to mature years; five are now surviving. The father was a quiet, unobtrusive citizen, carefully avoiding politics, giving his close attention to his extensive farming interests.

Our subject was a youth of seventeen years when he went to Illinois, and lived with his married sister, and later became a soldier in the Mexican War. After laying down the implements of warfare he took up those of agriculture, and with the exception of three or four years spent in merchandising, has given his close attention to the tilling of the soil. The spring of 1877 found him negotiating for the land which he now owns and occupies, and which he soon settled upon and began its improvement and cultivation.

Our subject, while a resident of Illinois, was married, May 25, 1848, to Miss Mary A. C. Hill.



They began their wedded life in Jersey County, Ill., and of their union there have been born seven children, five of whom are living. The eldest, Robert S., married Miss Mary Robertson, of Texas, and is a practicing attorney of Sulphur Springs, Tex; he is the father of four children—Mary, Thula, Juliet and Mattie. Juliet, Mrs. Edwin M. Atterberry, is a resident of Tecumseh, and the mother of a son—James G. James Gramham, Samuel K. and Richard B. continue at home with their parents.

Mrs. Mary A. C. (Hill) Blythe was born in the city of Richmond, Va., July 20, 1825. She is the daughter of Robert L. and Mariah (Tunstall) Hill, who after their marriage made their home in Kentucky and Illinois. The father died in Illinois, Aug. 19, 1863. The mother died in 1873. Mr. Hill was educated for the law, but becoming interested in other enterprises operated as an insurance agent at one time, and while a resident of Jerseyville was Clerk of the Circuit Court. He was the owner of a farm, but did not carry on agriculture himself.

Mr. Blythe at one time was the owner of considerable land in Texas, and still retains eighty acres near the town of Cooper. He improved his time and opportunities so well in his younger years, living so economically, and keeping a steady outlook for his declining years, that now when this period is upon him he is living mostly retired from active labor, and sitting under his own vine and fig tree, is simply in the enjoyment of that which he has so justly earned. His career is a fine illustration of the self-made man, who has pushed his own way upward in the world, and is indebted to no one for his position and the fine property of which he is the possessor.



**H**EZEKIAH B. STRONG, one of the prominent early settlers of Nebraska, and who probably arrived here before anyone in this locality now living, has for the last twenty-two years been a resident of Todd Creek Precinct, and is the owner of a valuable farm embracing 185 acres of highly cultivated land with commodious

and substantial buildings. He at one time owned a much larger acreage, but has sold off considerable.

Our subject arrived on the soil of Nebraska the 7th day of August, 1856, nearly eleven years before it was admitted into the Union as a State. He had made the journey overland from Wisconsin with teams and crossed the Missouri River on a flatboat. He settled first in Richardson County, near the present site of Falls City, but a year later changed his location to the present site of Nemaha City. There he purchased land, paying \$1,000 for 160 acres, in Buchanan's Addition, taking all he could secure. That land he improved, making two miles of fence the first year. He held the property five years, in the meantime erecting buildings, setting out twenty acres of forest trees and two or three acres of fruit. In company with his wife and daughters, he put up one of the finest barns then in the county. This farm is now owned by Thomas Kean, and lies three miles southwest of Nemaha.

The neighbors of Mr. Strong at the time of his coming here were few and far between, and Indians roamed over the country, but aside from stealing whatever they could lay their hands upon, they did not molest the settlers, who were thankful to get off thus easily. Mr. Strong finally took up his residence on the Nemaha River, purchasing a tract of land in 1865, where he began the building up of a homestead which he has disposed of. He was the founder of the town of Butler's Mills, and operated the first flouring-mill in that locality, grinding corn for people at Beatrice, and turned out the first bag of flour in the county.

It will be seen that Mr. Strong was one of the leading men of this section of country, and it is quite natural that he should be one of the first appointed Postmaster, which office he held for two years at Butler, and was succeeded by a Mr. O. M. Holmes. He was also the first Station Agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, and as such was in the employ of that company a period of five years. In the meantime he steadily proceeded with the improvement of his land, and in the fall of 1881 finished one of the finest residences in this part of the county. This is a large, two-



story, frame structure, conveniently arranged, finely finished and handsomely furnished. The main barn corresponds entirely with the residence, and the sheds and cattle pens afford ample shelter for stock. Mr. Strong is largely interested in the breeding of road horses, and has one of the finest Hambletonian stallions in the State. He also has a three-year-old mare of the same breed, which is very valuable. His cattle are the Short-horns and his swine the Poland-China. The farm is enclosed with hedge fencing, and the fields which are not at present under cultivation are rich in good pasturage. About sixty acres of valuable timber add to the importance of the property, while the waste is utilized for fuel.

The subject of this sketch was born in Onondaga County, N. Y., Jan. 30, 1822, and lived there with his father until a lad of thirteen years. About 1835, leaving the Empire State, he emigrated to Wisconsin, making the journey via the first lake steamer set afloat. A few years afterward our subject sold the first peaches and apples ever marketed on the streets in the State of Wisconsin. He lived there about four years, then went East, and was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Stocking, a native of his own county, and soon afterward returned with his bride to Milwaukee. Later they settled on the Whitewater River in Jefferson County, where Mr. Strong became owner of a valuable tract of land.

To Mr. and Mrs. Strong there were born three children—Emma, Edward B. and Ella, all of whom are deceased. Ella married Peter Wright, and became the mother of three children, one of whom, a son, Carlton, is still living, and makes his home with his grandfather, attending school. Mrs. Caroline (Stocking) Strong was born Feb. 19, 1820, and was reared to womanhood in her native county, living there with her parents until her marriage. She received a common-school education and that careful home training which fitted her for her subsequent duties in life.

Mr. Strong cast his first Presidential vote for J. K. Polk, being then a member of the Democratic party, but soon after the organization of the Republicans, considered he had reason to change his views, and for the last thirty-two years has been

one of the warmest supporters of Republican principles. After the outbreak of the late Civil War, he enlisted in Company H, 8th Kansas Infantry, being mustered in in November, 1862, and serving as a non-commissioned officer. He was at the battles of Perryville, Crab Orchard, Murfreesboro, and various other engagements and skirmishes, and at the end of his term of enlistment received his honorable discharge in March, 1863.

Ansel Strong, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut, in about 1785, and upon reaching manhood was married to Miss Hannah Stocking. They removed to Onondaga County, N. Y., where they spent the remainder of their days, the death of the father taking place about 1865, after he had reached the advanced age of eighty-seven years. The mother died about 1826. The parental family consisted of five children.



**W**ORTHY LUCE, farmer and stock-raiser, lives on section 36, Lincoln Precinct, where he owns a fine farm. He is a native of Onondaga County, N. Y., born Aug. 20, 1827, and is a son of Shubel and Lovina Luce, natives of Massachusetts. He lived in his native county until his twenty-first year, when he went to Waukesha County, Wis., and was there married to Mrs. Ann Phippin, widow of Thomas Phippin, of that county, and a daughter of Solomon and Elizabeth Horn. She was born in England and came to America with her parents when about eight years of age, settling in Waukesha County, where her father and mother both died.

Mr. and Mrs. Luce have two children: Luvina is the wife of Jarvis Smith, of Porter County, Ind., and George lives with his parents. By her first marriage Mrs. L. had two children, one of whom, Phoebe A., is now the wife of Thomas Goodman, of this county. During the War of the Rebellion our subject enlisted in Company F, 28th Wisconsin Infantry, and served in the Army of the Southwest, part of the time under Gens. Pope and Prentiss. Their operations were largely in the State of Arkansas, where our subject with his company participated in the battles of Helena and Little Rock,

and in many other minor fights and skirmishes, serving until the close of the war.

Returning to peaceful pursuits, Mr. Luce settled in Wisconsin until 1874, when he came to Johnson County, buying 240 acres of land where he now lives, and to which he has added eighty acres lying in Todd Creek Precinct. When he first bought there were no improvements of consequence upon his property, but by much hard labor and good management he has made it one of the best farms in the neighborhood.

Our subject has always taken a warm interest in educational matters, and for a number of years has acted as Moderator in his school district. He is a Republican in politics, and a member of the G. A. R. Post at Tecumseh. A self-made man, Mr. Luce owes his success in life to untiring energy, industry and thrift.



**W**ILLIAM A. SOUDERS, a representative young farmer and stock-raiser of Helena Precinct, resides on section 16, range 11 east, township 6 north, and is a native of Washington County, Md., born April 9, 1853, a son of Jonathan Souders, of whom a sketch appears on another page. His mother died in his native State while he was a young boy, and he went with his father to Knox County, Ill., they subsequently removing to Johnson County, Neb., where his home has ever since been. He acquired his education in the district schools, and was married, April 15, 1880, to Miss Luella A. Miller, a native of Wisconsin, born Feb. 5, 1861, and a daughter of Seth and Margaret Miller, natives respectively of Ohio and Pennsylvania, and now residents of Smith County, Kan. In the winter of 1876 she came with her parents from Missouri to Nebraska, they removing to Kansas in 1881.

The union of our subject and his wife was blessed by the birth of three children, but death claimed the two eldest, and only one is left to gladden their home. The two deceased were named Luella A. and Harry A., and the living child is named Hubert. Mr. Souders is the owner of eighty acres of

land, all under good cultivation, and is meeting with success in his chosen work, being a young man brimful of energy and perseverance. In politics he acts with the Republican party.

**R**ICHARD HARTWELL, a venerable citizen of Western Precinct, has been a resident of Johnson County since 1867, embracing a period of over twenty-one years. Soon after coming within its borders he homesteaded 160 acres of land, which he still occupies. Upon the principle that a rolling stone gathers no moss, he has clung steadily to the one purpose of building for himself a home in his declining years, and accumulating as much of this world's goods as a kindly Providence permitted. He is now approaching the sunset of life, being over eighty-seven years of age, having been born Nov. 15, 1801. He first opened his eyes to the light fifty-one miles from Toronto, in the Province of Upper Canada, and is the son of Ebenezer Hartwell, a native of Vermont. The latter took up his residence in the Dominion early in life, and thence emigrated to Ohio, settling in what was then Huron but is now Erie County, in 1815.

Our subject left his native place with his parents, and continued under the home roof until reaching his majority. Then making his way to Prairie du Chien, Wis., he lived there until December, 1842, when he returned to Ohio. In December, 1843, he was married in the latter State to Miss Eliza Huitt. This lady was a daughter of Collins Huitt. Mr. and Mrs. Hartwell's wedded life was blessed by the birth of eight children, three of whom are deceased. The five surviving are Emeline, Richard, Susan, Oremill and Mary. One son, Hiram, enlisted during the late war, and met death on the battle-field of Winchester, Sept. 19, 1864.

Our subject and his family removed to this county in 1867, where Mr. Hartwell battled to good advantage with the elements of a new soil, and as an honest man and a good citizen made many friends. She who had been his companion for a period of thirty years passed away on the 22d of November, 1874. Mr. Hartwell for several



years has been afflicted with blindness, but he has not permitted this to change his cheerful disposition, or his reliance upon an over-ruling Providence. He has been for a long period a member in good standing of the Free-Will Baptist Church. He cast his first Presidential vote for John Q. Adams in 1828, and voted for Harrison in 1888.

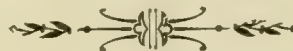


**J**OHAN H. BADBERG settled in the spring of 1880 on his present farm of 160 acres, which occupies the southeast quarter of section 17, in Spring Creek Precinct. He is holding his own among the agriculturists and stock-raisers of the northeastern part of this county, and forms a worthy representative of the nationality which has borne such an important part in the development of the Great West.

Our subject first opened his eyes to the light in the Kingdom of Hanover, Germany, where his birth took place Dec. 5, 1843. John G. and Stientye (Cordes) Badberg, his parents, were of pure German ancestry and natives of Hanover. The mother passed from earth when her son John H. was a little lad of seven years. His father was married the second time, and our subject lived with the latter and his stepmother until reaching man's estate. He received a thorough education in his native tongue and assisted his father on the farm in Hanover until 1872, when the family all emigrated to America, taking passage at Bremen on an ocean steamer, and landed in New York City after a safe voyage of twenty days.

The Badbergs, soon after setting foot upon American soil, made their way directly westward across the Mississippi into Otoe County, this State, of which they were among the early settlers, and where the father took up a tract of wild land and continued farming as before, making their home in Otoe County. There his death took place in the spring of 1884. He was one of the leading German pioneers of Otoe County, a man of standing among his people, a Republican in politics, and a devout member of the Lutheran Church. The stepmother is still living in Otoe County. The household circle by both marriages included eleven children,

eight of whom are living, namely: George, Henry, Mary, Herman, Harm, Maria, Schwantka and John H., our subject. All but the latter are residents of Otoe County. Mr. Badberg was a resident of Otoe County about seven years, settling on his present farm in Johnson County about the spring of 1880. Here he has effected good improvements, and occupies a worthy position among the self-made men around him. He was married, March 8, 1873, in Otoe County, to Miss Minnie Lohmiller, and they have become the parents of six children, namely: Anna B., Christina, Henry, John, Herman and William. Mr. and Mrs. Badberg are members in good standing of the Lutheran Church, and our subject, politically, like his father before him, is a staunch supporter of Republican principles. He has become thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country, and keeps himself well posted upon passing events.



**C**HRISTIAN BUEHLER, for the last eleven years a resident of Vesta Precinct, carries on farming industriously and profitably, and operates 200 acres of land on section 16. He is a thorough representative of the thrifty and industrious German citizen, who has labored independently, built up for himself a comfortable home, and by his straightforward dealings with his fellowmen has gained their esteem and confidence. His early home was on the other side of the ocean, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany, where his birth took place June 19, 1850.

Matthew Buehler, the father of our subject, and who is now deceased, was a native of the same place as his son Christian, where he lived until 1868. He then crossed the Atlantic with his family, and in the spring of that year took up his residence in the vicinity of Sterling, Whiteside Co., Ill. Five years later, in the spring of 1873, he crossed the Father of Waters and settled in Adams Precinct, Gage County, this State. There he labored singly until the spring of 1876, laying the foundation of a future home, and in March of that year, returning to Illinois, was married on the 23d of the month to Miss Mary,



daughter of John Kirgis, of Whiteside County. They lived in Illinois until the fall of 1877, then came to this county, and settled upon the land now occupied by our subject. Of this union there were born three children: Dora S., now living, and two deceased—Ida L. and Noah J. Mrs. Mary Buehler died at her home in Vesta Precinct, Nov. 11, 1880. Her little daughter Ida followed the mother a week later, and Noah died April 30, 1882.

Mr. Buehler on the 3d of October, 1881, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Mary, daughter of John and Caroline Joekel, of Sterling, Neb. Of this marriage there were also born three children: William A.; Simon F., who died Dec. 11, 1886, and Carl A. The homestead includes 160 acres of good land, and Mr. Buehler has a twenty-five years lease on forty acres besides. He began from first principles in the development of his farm, building up a comfortable homestead from the wild prairie, and bringing the soil to a good state of cultivation. His buildings are kept in good repair, and his live stock indicates ample shelter and plenty of food. Mr. Buehler has planted shade trees around the dwelling, and has a fine orchard of apple trees. He has labored early and late, as his surroundings indicate.

Our subject, politically, votes with the Republican party. He has no aspirations for office, preferring to give his time and attention to his farm and family. The German Methodist Episcopal Church of Salem numbers him as one of its most valuable members, and in which he has officiated as Class-Leader for the last eight years, holding besides the office of Steward.

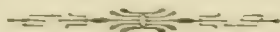
ANDREW M. WILLIAMSON, the pioneer dry-goods merchant of Crab Orchard, was born near Greenville, Muhlenberg Co., Ky., Oct. 6, 1843, and is the son of Eleazer T. and Amelia R. (Rice) Williamson, who were natives of Kentucky. The father is living near Earlville, Beadle Co., Dak., where they settled in 1884; the mother is now deceased.

Our subject removed with his parents from the Blue Grass regions to Montgomery County, Ill., in 1851, and there acquired his education, completing

his studies in Hillsboro Academy. His business career was begun as clerk in a dry-goods and grocery store at Hillsboro, where he remained six years thus occupied, and had then exercised that frugality and forethought which enabled him to lay up a snug sum of money and purchase a half-interest in the business of his employer. They continued together five years longer, when young Williamson withdrew, disposing of his interests to his partner, and then going to Donelson in the same county, established himself there in general merchandising, and remained until 1879. He then traded his stock of goods for a farm, which he leased, and accepted a position as salesman for the firm of Day & Upstone, of Nokomis, with whom he remained two and one-half years. In the spring of 1883, crossing the Mississippi, he established himself at Crab Orchard in his present business, at a time when there was in this place only a small grocery and a hardware store, started a short time previously. From the modest enterprise of Mr. Williamson has grown up a business commanding a capital of between \$5,000 and \$6,000, from which is transacted \$15,000 worth of business. Mr. Williamson is able to duplicate any bill of goods in his line sold in the cities of Beatrice or Tecumseh. Buying for cash, he is enabled to obtain a liberal discount, and in connection with his credit system uses the D. O. Lantz Credit Coupon check book, which is claimed to be the best in the world. He carries a full line of merchandise, including dry-goods, boots and shoes, hats, caps, notions, millinery, gentlemen's furnishing goods, crockery, etc., in fact everything required on the farm or in the village household. He has been a familiar figure among the people of this region for many years, and his straightforward methods of doing business have secured their confidence and esteem.

Miss Isabel H. Kerr, a native of Fayette County, Ohio, became the wife of our subject on the 1st of February, 1872, the wedding being celebrated at the home of the bride in Montgomery County, Ill., near Hillsboro. Mrs. Williamson was born Nov. 20, 1846, and is the daughter of Robert and Jane (Kerr) Kerr, who were natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania, and are now both deceased. Of this union there have been no children. Mr. Williamson dur-

ing his younger years affiliated with the Democratic party, but his warm interest in the success of the temperance movement led him, in 1883, to identify himself with the Prohibitionists, and he is now a leading member of this party in Johnson County. He has never been ambitious for office, although having served as Councilman, and occupying other positions of trust and responsibility in this community. Religiously, both he and his excellent wife are members in good standing of the Presbyterian Church, to which they give a cordial and generous support. Their handsome and comfortable home is located on Main street, and during the years of their residence here they have gathered about them many warm friends.



**WILLIAM E. KING.** Upon section 12 of Todd Creek Precinct is one of the best farms in the district, the property of our subject. It comprises 100 acres of thoroughly improved and highly productive farming land. This has been owned by him since March, 1879, and was purchased within two weeks of his coming to the State. Nearly everything that has been done in the line of improvement is his work. His property is held in a very perfect manner, and it is well kept and trimmed, presenting a fine appearance and effectually serving the design and purpose. Other improvements, such as grove, pond, etc., have all found their place with our subject, and have added to his enterprise, good taste and elegance.

Our subject *thriftily* devotes his energies to the raising of stock, dealing chiefly in high-grade Shorthorns, improved bays of the Poland-China variety, graded sheep and draft horses and mules. In this connection he is quite skillful and favorable known. His reputation as a business man is marked as being of the most honorable description possible, and his stock is respectably good.

The birth of our subject took place on the 20th of August, 1841, in Wilson Township, Niagara Co., N. Y., and he made his home there until he was about sixteen years of age, when, with his parents, he went to Henry County, Ill., and remained with

them until attaining his majority. His education, which was obtained in the common schools, was practical and thorough so far as it went, and embraced the usual subject of instruction. Schooling finished, his energies were directed to husbandry and the care of stock, which he has continued almost without intermission up to the present time.

The subject of our sketch was united in marriage with Miss Helen E. Taylor, of Kewanee, Ill., on the 14th of October, 1874. Their union has been consummated by the birth of four children, all of whom are living. The subjoined are the names borne by them: Lewis, Clara, Clarence and May. Mrs. King was born in Knox County, Ill., on the 8th of May, 1855. She was educated in the common schools of the county, and is possessed of much innate refinement, which, with her happy disposition, makes her eminently fitted for domestic or social life.

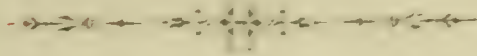
The father of Mrs. King, A. A. Taylor, was born in New York. While but a young man he went to Pennsylvania, thence to Michigan, and finally to Illinois. He is now a resident of Nebraska. The maiden name of his wife was Susan Hurlburt. They became the parents of seven children, six of whom are still living.

Horace King, the father of our subject, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., and as a young man moved to Niagara County in order to take a farm and begin life for himself. He married Miss Desire Burton, in Columbia County, N. Y., by whom he became the father of five children, of whom three are living. By an unusual coincidence all three are owners of extensive farms in this county, and are among the well-to-do citizens. In 1806 Mr. King moved to Henry County, and there made his home until he came hither. His death occurred on the 10th of September, 1875; his widow still survives. He was a member of the Free Methodist Church.

The subject of our sketch has won and retained the hearty esteem of the community. He has been called upon to fill various school offices, and that of Road Supervisor. He is not prominent as a politician, but is always careful to exercise his right of franchise, voting with the Republican party. Both he and his wife are in communion with



the Free Will Baptist Church, and take much interest in matters connected therewith. In fact and every other branch of activity they are highly respected by all who know them.



**ERIK HANBERG** represents the larger class of German subjects who have come to this free land and made it their home. He is a successful farmer of Lincoln Precinct, his home and property being situated on section 17, township 5 north, range 12 east. He is a native of Holsten, and was born on the 21st of June, 1822, and is the son of Mark and Dorothea Hanberg. He received a good education in his native land, which he did not leave until he was about twenty years of age.

Leaving Holsten in the month of April, 1842, our subject embarked on a sailing-vessel, which, after an eventful voyage of seven weeks, landed him in the bay of New York. From there he went to Rock Island County, Ill., and for some time years worked by the month, being freight and hauled to the mill-wheels, so that he was then enabled to purchase a farm in that county, which he continued to operate on his own interests for about four years.

Mr. Hanberg was joined in wedlock with Margaret Keizner, of Rock Island County, June 15, 1870. Two years later accompanied by his wife, he left Illinois for this State, and coming to Johnson County, purchased 160 acres in Lincoln Precinct. This he found very much improved, and at that started with all the energy he could command to bring about a better condition of things. This he has succeeded in doing, to the extent that he has made it one of the best farms in the district. Whatever has been done by way of success in life has been the result of his own earnest effort, which, since his marriage, has always been supplemented by that of his faithful and devoted wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Hanberg are members of the German Lutheran Church, and in religious matters are much esteemed, as they are also in every other. Our subject has served one term as Rural Supervisor, besides holding other offices. In politics he

is thoroughly Democratic. He has on the same extensive tract of German settlement, and has a large stock of agricultural fruits and vegetables, more. He has always shown a keen interest in social and educational matters, and everything that pertains to the advancement of the interests of the country. His working interest and high-mindedness have been a very important part of his, and he remains loyal to his business engagements. He is one of the highly valued members of the precinct of whom we are a resident.



**JOHN EPLER**, one of our best farmers in Lincoln Precinct is the possessor of the subject of this sketch and biography. He owns a valuable tract of land, all in one body, by a deed of gift, comprising the same was granted of section 8 and the meeting of section 17. Besides this Mr. Epler has 160 acres elsewhere in the precinct. The family residence is surrounded by a grove of twenty acres, and is found in a full home, barrel shed and barn with horse-pens and stables. It is a fine house, containing some of the best of modern architecture, and is a very nice place.

Mr. Epler took possession of a part of the land, which he now owns in the spring of 1870. Early a few acres had been broken, the balance being a wild prairie, the nature of farms or buildings. It has been brought to its present condition which by the exercise of working industry and a wise policy of funds. The house here is surrounded by a large lot of land, having and the whole is kept very neat, presenting a pleasant view of green, especially beautiful in the spring and autumn, being for the protection of the fields and whatever lies within them. The residence was completed in the spring of 1870 and is a goodly structure in every respect, located in position, by a good, well-kept garden.

Mr. Epler is active in the cultivation of the soil, planted parts of his land in corn, wheat, oats, and has had considerable success in the cultivation of fruit, especially for family use and sometimes beyond. He has the power, energy, and industry



trees, besides grape vines and plants which yield the other luscious fruits in their season. In addition to general farming our subject is fond of fine stock and is one of the leaders in this industry in Johnson County. He keeps usually a herd of 100 to 140 cattle, together with a number of valuable draft horses and a large number of swine. For the keeping of these he raises annually quantities of corn and grain, devoting to these purposes nearly 200 acres of ground. Years ago his corn and grain crop comprised about 400 acres annually. Later he gave more space to grass and less to corn.

A man of more than ordinary ability, Mr. Epley has naturally occupied a prominent position among his townsmen, as one whose judgment it is safe to follow and to whose opinions experience has given value. He has never been ambitious for office but willing to serve his precinct in whatever capacity he can be useful. He cast his first Presidential vote for James Buchanan, and since that day has trained with the good old Democratic party. In his district he has been a member of the School Board almost since its organization, and there are few enterprises in his neighborhood in which he has not been a leading spirit.

John Epley was born in Adams County, Pa., Feb. 23, 1836, and lived there until a man of thirty years. He received a practical education in his youth and was at an early age trained to habits of industry and economy, which have proved the secret of his later success. He has all his life been engaged in farm pursuits. Upon reaching manhood he was married to a maiden of his own county, Feb. 16, 1859. Of this union there were born seven children, all of whom are living and at home with their parents. They are named respectively: Harriet Elizabeth, Charles Meade, George Franklin, Emma J., William Edward, Harvey D. and Amanda C. They are being trained and educated in a manner befitting their station and circumstances in life.

Mr. and Mrs. Epley continued residents of their native State after their marriage until 1866, making their home in Adams County, Pa. There their three eldest children were born. In the fall of the year mentioned they moved to Knox County, Ill., where our subject operated his own farm until 1874.

Then selling out again he followed the example of many of the people of that county and cast his lot with the pioneers of Nebraska. He first rented land in this county, and in 1875 purchased 160 acres now occupied by the homestead buildings. Subsequently he purchased 240 acres more, thus becoming one of the largest land-holders in the precinct. He commenced with a very small amount of capital, but by industry and good management soon found himself on the high road to prosperity.

Mrs. Sophia J. (Culp) Epley was born in Adams County, Pa., May 26, 1839, near the historical battle-ground of Gettysburg and in the vicinity of Culp Hill, which was then owned by her cousin, Henry Culp, who, if living, probably holds it to this day. Mrs. E. lived there with her parents until her marriage. The latter were George and Elizabeth (Ritter) Culp, and the father was also born in Gettysburg in 1800, there also spending his entire life. He was a wheelwright by trade and also carried on farming. His death occurred at the old homestead about September, 1874. The wife and mother is still living, having attained in August, 1888, the ripe old age of eighty-five years. Both parents were members of the Lutheran Church.

George Epley, the father of our subject, was born in York County, Pa., Nov. 8, 1810. He moved to Adams County with his parents when a child. In the latter he received his education, and upon reaching manhood was married, Sept. 8, 1833, to Miss Harriet Wentz. Their union resulted in the birth of ten children, who with one exception lived to mature years, and that one, a girl, died when twelve years old. The father carried on farming successfully in Adams County, where he was a prominent member of the community, and with his estimable wife a member in good standing in the Lutheran Church. About 1866 he removed from Pennsylvania to Knox County, Ill., where he spent his last days, his death taking place March 11, 1886. His wife, the mother of Mr. Epley, is still living, and makes her home with our subject.

Mrs. Harriet (Wentz) Epley was born in Adams County, Pa. Jan. 17, 1813, and is the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Sheely) Wentz, the former a weaver by trade, who followed this and farming combined. He spent his last years in Adams

County, Pa., dying about 1870 at the age of eighty-four years. The mother, Mrs. Elizabeth (Sheely) Wentz, passed from earth when her daughter Harriet was but ten years old.

Henry Epley, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was also a native of York County, Pa., where he lived until middle-aged, then removed to Adams County, where his death took place about 1849, when he was probably sixty-three years old.



**D**AVID S. WARNER. The farm of this gentleman is situated on section 22 of Nemaha Precinct, and comprises 160 acres.

His reputation as a stock-raiser is quite extensive and exceedingly favorable, if not flattering, seeing that he is among the most enterprising, practical, and therefore successful, of those similarly engaged in the district. Mr. Warner was born in Madison County, Ohio, Sept. 22, 1846. When six years of age his parents moved to Jasper County, Iowa, and in that county he was reared to manhood. In its schools he obtained a good education, which, if not collegiate in scope, was practical and thorough.

Mr. Warner was united in marriage, on the 7th of March, 1867, with Miss Mary E. Timmons. This lady, like himself, is a native of the Buckeye State, and the estimable daughter of Thomas W. Timmons, one of Ohio's prominent citizens and prosperous farmers. About the time of his marriage our subject purchased a farm in Iowa, continuing to operate the same until August, 1870, when he turned his face toward Nebraska, and started to come to this place. He, of course, traveled by the aid of his team, and arrived without any particular adventurous incidents of special note, on the 8th of September, 1870. Since that time he has always resided here.

Almost the first thing to be done after seeing his family comfortably provided for was for our subject to select a location. The result of this investigation was the purchase, at the rate of \$7.50 per acre, of his present farm. It was all unimproved prairie land, but was ready for the plow, and the experience for five years in a more Eastern State,

where the giants of the forest had first to be evicted, was here spared him. All the improvements that may be seen to-day are the result of his earnest endeavor. His house is substantially built, and is to him and his family a true home. It was erected in 1876. The octagon barn, built in 1883, he finds exceedingly convenient for his purpose, and has built it to stay. The grove not far from the house covers an extent of ten acres, and contains only thrifty growing and well-developed trees. His orchard is worthy of favorable remark, although, perhaps, not so extensive as some others in the county; the trees are well selected, of good variety and excellent bearers. Small fruits are to be had in abundance in season, and of almost endless variety. The farm, as a whole, is highly cultivated, well fenced and in excellent condition.

Reference was made above to the stock-raising interests of Mr. Warner. He keeps about fifty head of pure thoroughbred Short-horns, and this he makes a specialty. He is the owner of some very fine cattle, and usually receives the first premium at any fair to which he may take his stock. Among the beautiful creatures, worthy, perhaps, of special mention, is the well-known bull Oxford Wiley, whose registered number is 76,720. Among the different varieties of stock are the Rosamonds, Princesses, Pansys and Victorias.

Mathew Warner, the father of our subject, was born in the Empire State, in July, 1822, removing with his father when fourteen years of age to Ohio, where he made his home until 1852. At that time he emigrated to Iowa, where he still lives. He is a large dairy farmer, and in that line very prosperous. He is a man much respected in the community, and has frequently been called upon to fill various local offices. The maiden name of his wife was Margaret McMilen. This lady was a native of Ohio. They became the parents of six children, of whom four attained to mature years. Of these the subject of our sketch was the eldest. The wife and mother died when our subject was twelve years of age. Later Mr. Warner, Sr., contracted a second alliance. He is a devout member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and much esteemed in that communion.

The grandfather of our subject, Stephen Warner,



was born in Chenango County, N. Y.; as noted above he removed to the State of Ohio about the year 1836, and was numbered among the pioneers of the State. He went to work and hewed out for himself a farm from the primeval forest, erecting his cabin from the logs that fell beneath the powerful strokes of his ax. The whole of his life at that period was upon the same line, and was filled with the various pleasures, adventures, difficulties and hardships of pioneerdom. Here he resided until his death, which occurred about 1877, when he was about eighty-six years of age.

The subject of this writing has secured the respect and esteem of the community, to which they gave expression by electing him to act as School Treasurer, and later as County Commissioner, the duties of these responsible offices being performed in a most satisfactory manner. He is a true and loyal citizen, both worthy and capable.

ANCIL B. BALL, editor and proprietor of the *Tecumseh Republican*, came to this town in the spring of 1884, and established the journal whose politics are already indicated, and which has become one of the indispensable institutions of Johnson County. He has ably advocated the principles of his party, and has continuously urged it to take an advanced position upon all new questions which spring up for the voters of the State and county to decide. Many months before the Republican National Convention of 1888 met at Chicago to nominate a candidate for President, Mr. Ball hoisted a Ben Harrison flag at the top of the editorial column of his paper, believing from his personal knowledge of the man, that, of all the candidates under discussion, Mr. Harrison was the best and most available. His able articles, published in support of his favorite candidate, were largely copied in many of the influential journals of other States, and there is no doubt had much to do in calling the attention of the Republican press to Mr. Harrison, as Mr. Ball's was the first paper outside of Indiana to come out positively for the grandson of Old Tippecanoe.

The subject of this sketch was born in Randolph

County, Ind., Sept. 9, 1835, and about two years later his father, Judge John Ball, and family removed to Kosciusko County, that State, settling in a log cabin, in the midst of a timber tract. For several years thereafter the Pottawatomie and Miami Indians made that portion of the State their hunting-grounds, and their chiefs, Bennack and Peash-away, became fast friends of John Ball and his family. Upon one occasion at least they saved their lives from the violence of a hostile tribe.

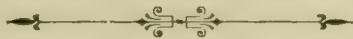
The early education of Mr. Ball began in that humble dwelling in the woods, with his mother for his teacher, and at evening the blazing hearthstone fire his candle light. Later on the log school-house was erected, where he attended in the winter season, working on the farm during the summer and fall. In the fall of 1856 he became a student of Ft. Wayne Methodist Episcopal College, from which he was graduated with honors, then, returning home, his father having died, resumed his labors on the old farm during the seasons of sowing and reaping, and employed his winters as a teacher.

In the spring of 1864 Mr. Ball repaired to Warsaw, Ind., where he was engaged in the dry-goods trade until the fall of 1870. In the meantime, as a man well posted in politics and possessed of a large fund of general information, he was esteemed competent to look after the interests of the people in an official capacity, and was accordingly nominated and elected by the Republicans Auditor of Kosciusko County. So satisfactorily did he acquit himself in discharging the duties of his position that at the expiration of his first term he was re-nominated by acclamation, and re-elected to a second term by a majority almost double that of the former.

In the spring of 1883 Mr. Ball, having suffered greatly from ill-health, decided upon a change of climate, and spent a year thereafter in the city of Denver. Thence, in the spring of 1884, he came to Nebraska, and soon afterward established the *Republican*, which has now not only obtained a foothold financially, but in all other respects among the people of this part of the State. Mr. Ball has been a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church since a young man of twenty years, and has taken an active interest in Sunday-school



work. He has been called upon to fill some of the most responsible positions in connection with this work, both in the States of Indiana and Nebraska. He identified himself with the Masonic fraternity thirty years ago, is a Good Templar of twenty-nine years' standing, and an Odd Fellow of twenty-four years. A man of decided views, and fearless in the expression of his sentiments, he is fortunately possessed of the good judgment to know when to speak and when to keep silent.



**J**AMES A. CARMAN, one of the younger members of the farming community of Spring Creek Precinct, is successfully operating on 100 acres of good land, comprising a portion of section 30. He is the son of Hon. A. A. Carman, of whom a sketch appears elsewhere in this volume, and was born in Cass County, Ill., Jan. 1, 1863.

When a little lad two and a half years of age our subject was brought to this county by his parents, and was reared to manhood in Spring Creek Precinct, acquiring his education in the common school, and becoming familiar with farm life as it was carried on in the pioneer days. He grew up industrious and energetic, choosing agriculture for his occupation in life, and when ready to establish a home of his own, was married, Feb. 23, 1885, to Miss Annie McKenzie, the wedding being celebrated at Tecumseh, Johnson County.

Mrs. Carman was born in Hancock County, Ill., and is the daughter of Joseph and Ellen (Pike) McKenzie, who were natives of Scotland and Kentucky. The mother is deceased, and the father is still living in Hancock County, Ill. The McKenzie family is of Scotch ancestry, and were early settlers of Kentucky, where the parents of Joseph McKenzie settled, probably after their emigration from Scotland. Mr. McK. has been twice married, his first wife being the mother of Mrs. Carman. Of his two marriages there were born eight children, namely: Thomas, now a resident of California; Annie, the wife of our subject; Amanda, Mrs. L. Martin, of McDonough County, Ill.; William, a resident of Adams County, Ill.; Ellen, the wife of

Charles Underhill, of McDonough County; John, of California; Henrietta and Frederick, the two latter being the children of the second wife, with whom Mr. McK. is still living in Hancock County. He is now nearly sixty years of age, a man of sterling worth and greatly respected by his community. He has for many years been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving as Class-Leader, and laboring as he has had opportunity in the Master's vineyard.

To Mr. and Mrs. Carman there has been born one child, a daughter, Carrie, Jan. 23, 1886. Mr. C. is a staunch Republican, politically, and with his estimable wife occupies a good social position, being, like his honored father, a useful and intelligent member of his community, encouraging those projects tending to elevate society and serve the best interests of the people.



**B**ERNARD M. PAYNE. The subject of this sketch has been a prominent factor in the building interests of Tecumseh for a long period, although for the last seven or eight years he has lived mostly retired from active business. A native of Morris County, N. J., he was born Sept. 24, 1818, and when a young child was taken by his parents to Long Island. His father lived but a few years afterward, his decease taking place when his son Bernard was a lad of seven or eight years.

After the death of her husband, the mother of our subject removed to Bloomingdale, N. J., to the home of her father, where Bernard spent his boyhood days, and acquired his education in the common schools. He then began an apprenticeship at the mason's trade in Newark, N. J., where he worked for a period of fourteen years. The family then migrated to Ogle County, Ill., where Bernard M. followed his trade and became owner of a tract of land, upon which he lived and the operations of which he superintended, although not working upon it himself. At the same time he was largely interested in stock-raising. From Illinois he made his way across the Mississippi and locating in this county, still following farming and working at his

trade as before. Gradually he developed into a contractor, and his superior workmanship was always the source of a good income.

The year 1871 saw our subject established in the vicinity of Tecumseh, he having purchased land in Maple Grove Precinct. From this he built up a fine farm, and later invested in city property. He removed from the farm to his town residence in 1877. Besides the work he has done for others he has put up eight dwelling-houses in Tecumseh for himself, one of which he occupies and the others he rents. Many of the best brick blocks in the city bear witness to his taste and skill, and will stand for years to come as monuments to his enterprise and industry. He is now in the enjoyment of a competency, and sitting under his own vine and fig tree, can look back upon a well-spent life.

Mr. Payne has traveled considerably over this continent, from New Jersey to Florida and Texas, also taking in California. From the Pacific Slope he returned by the Union Pacific route to Denver, Colo., taking ample time to view the grand scenery of the Rocky Mountains. Socially, he is a genial and companionable man, one with whom it is both pleasurable and profitable to converse. He has made good use of his time and opportunities, and in his extended travels gained a fund of information which he is able to impart in an amusing and instructive manner.

Our subject has always been an ardent supporter of Democratic principles. His fine natural abilities would many a time have secured an office could he have been prevailed upon to accept. In religious matters his beliefs incline to Methodist doctrines, although he is liberal-minded, and gives his support to other denominations, believing that in all there is good, and that which will advance the moral welfare of the community. He is spoken of as a man whose honesty and integrity are unimpeachable. His influence upon the community around him has been of that character which is a blessing to any city.

The marriage of Bernard M. Payne and Miss Albia A. Mayberry, of Blairstown, N. J., was celebrated at the home of the bride, and of their congenial union there have been born four children, three of whom are living—Josephine, Mary and

Carrie. Mrs. Payne was born at Huntsville, N. J. Her mother lived but a short time afterward, and she was taken into the home of an uncle, in whose family she remained for some years. Her father having married a second time, she was taken to his home, and there she lived until her removal to Newark, N. J. At that place she boarded with the mother of Mr. Payne, and thus began the acquaintance which ripened into a mutual affection and finally marriage. In the meantime she had resided in the city of Brooklyn a number of years. The peaceful and happy home of our subject, however, was invaded by the fell destroyer, Mrs. Payne passing away in Tecumseh, in November, 1880. She was a lady possessing all the Christian virtues, a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church, a good wife and a kind mother. In early life she had developed a taste for literature and was a writer of considerable merit, of poetry mostly. At the time of the completion of the fine residence now occupied by our subject, Mrs. Payne was very ill and known to be beyond recovery, but she desired to move into the dwelling in which she had anticipated spending many happy years. Her death took place one week later.

Miss Josephine, the eldest daughter of our subject, is the wife of Wilson Peterson, of Maple Grove Precinct, this county. Mary is the wife of A. M. Appelget, a prominent attorney of Tecumseh, and a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this ALBUM; they have three children. Carrie, Mrs. A. Canfield, is the wife of one of the leading dealers in agricultural implements in Tecumseh, and the mother of one child, named Bernard, after its paternal grandfather.

James Payne, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut, whence he removed first to New Jersey and then to Long Island. He was a hatter by trade, but dying when his son Bernard M. was a lad, the latter has scarcely any recollection of him. The mother was in her girlhood Miss Catherine Sandford, of Bloomingdale, N. J. The household circle included four children, one of whom died when young. The three surviving are Bernard M., our subject; Alford James, of Newark, N. J., and John S., also of that city.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was John



Sandford, of Bloomingdale, N. J. and who married Miss Catherine Debough. He died when comparatively a young man, leaving his widow with several small children. Subsequently Mrs. S. moved to Bloomingdale, and afterward made her home also in Paterson and Newark, remaining a widow until the time of her death, which took place in about 1875. John Sandford was a native of Connecticut, and when a youth of sixteen years entered the Revolutionary Army, in which he served seven years, seven months and fifteen days. After his marriage he followed farming upon land given him by the father of his wife, and there made his home until his death, which occurred after he had reached the advanced age of ninety-six years. He was the father of a family of ten children, all of whom lived to mature years. The youngest son when twenty-one years old entered into a foot race with his father, in which the latter came out first best. The mother of our subject was a very excellent woman, and a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal Church for many years.



**T**HOMAS H. BROOKS, the courteous and popular station agent at Tecumseh for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, certainly needs no introduction to the reader. His father, Allen D. Brooks, was born in Alleghany County, Md., on the 17th of March, 1807. There also he received part of his education, finishing it at Cumberland, whence he removed to Alexandria, Va., and engaged in mercantile pursuits. Subsequently he bought land in Preston County, now in West Virginia, and commenced farming and stock-raising, the latter receiving perhaps the major part of his attention. He afterward removed to Fairmont, Marion County, in the same State, and again entered mercantile life, in connection with which, however, he continued farming upon land situated in the vicinity of his business. He remained in Fairmont only two years, and from there went to Mannington, where from 1852 to 1868 he continued employed in a similar direction.

In the latter year Mr. Brooks sold out and removed to Nemaha County, in this State, where he

owned a section of land upon which he took up his residence. He was also the owner of three-quarters of a section of land in Johnson County. At the time of his purchase it was entirely unimproved, but he brought it to a very high state of cultivation. He erected a very comfortable residence, and continued to make it his home until 1876, when he sold it and removed to Tecumseh, where he lived a retired life until his death, which occurred in 1885. He was a prominent man in the community, and was frequently offered but as often refused political honors. He was a strict and steadfast member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but even in this connection he refused all official honors.

Previous to her marriage Mrs. Allen D. Brooks bore the name Rachael Michael. She was a native of Preston County, Va. There have been born to them nine children, of whom six grew to maturity. The father of Mrs. Brooks was Thomas Michael, who was born in the year 1819, in the same county. His daughter continued to reside with her parents until her marriage, which was most happy, and extended over a period of forty-five years, and which terminated in her death at Tecumseh, in 1873. Her father was by occupation a farmer, and as such bore his full share of the ups and downs in life incidental thereto. His wife was a Miss Brain, who presented her husband with six children. She lived to see her family growing up and preparing to take their places in the world, and died in the year 1858, having survived her husband three years. Both were ardent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and active workers in the cause.

The father of Mrs. Thomas Michael was captured when a little fellow by the Indians, who at the same time massacred his brother and sisters before his eyes. His father and mother were both away, and for the time escaped, but later his father also was killed. The lad lived among the Indians for quite a long time, and was brought up by them, and so much were the habits and customs of these earlier years ingrafted into his very being that he retained many Indian ways, manners and customs throughout his life. The scene connected with the murder of his brother and sisters was deeply graven upon his memory, and was entirely ineffaceable.



He afterward settled in Preston County, and became a prominent and much valued citizen. We would refer the reader desirous of further information and a more complete history of the family to the history of Maryland, where such information will be found, although the name may possibly be mis-spelled and entered as Bran, instead of Brain, which is correct.

Thomas Brooks, M. D., the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Alleghany County, Md. He was born, brought up and educated in the city of Baltimore, where he became a physician, and practiced the healing art, as he did also in Frederick, Md. Subsequently he removed to a point in the Alleghany Mountains, where he continued to practice for a long period, and in his later days went to Morganton, where he continued the practice of his profession until his death, which occurred in 1855. Upon settling in life he married Miss Cardington, who became the mother of five children. She died in the year 1809, leaving a large family. Among these was Allen D., the father of our subject. Dr. Brooks again married, and was enabled to keep his home together, and thus the better fulfill his desires regarding his little ones. He was appointed a surgeon in the War of 1812, and being a very able man, enjoyed quite a reputation. He and his family were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and as such were faithful and much esteemed. Capt. John Smith, of Revolutionary War fame, with his wife, occupied the position of godfather and godmother to Thomas Brooks, when he was in early life baptized into the Church of England. After attaining to man's estate, he, however, left the Episcopal for the Methodist Church.

Thomas H. Brooks, the subject of our sketch, was born in Preston County, W. V., on the 8th of August, 1844. When but a youth he removed with the family to Marion County, where he received his education, which was thorough and practical, according to the ideas of the time. After leaving school he became a telegraph operator as early as 1859, when the old paper instruments were used. While still young he was given the responsible office at the railroad station at Mannington, after which he went to Cranberry Summit, on the Balti-

more & Ohio Railroad. He was at Mannington in 1861, when the bridges east of that place were burned, after which he stood for many nights as guard over the railroad bridges west of that town, until he was relieved by the soldiery.

After this Mr. Brooks volunteered to go into the service as a private, but was rejected on account of his age, and was advised by the inspecting officer to follow his own occupation. He worked at various points in Ohio and Illinois, for different railroad and commercial companies, until 1863, when he engaged in the Government service. He was now employed reporting to the Government Superintendent of Telegraph at Louisville, Ky., and was placed with a cavalry scout for service in the direction of the Columbia River, in that State. Here they remained for a few weeks, when he was sent to Columbia, and was stationed within a few miles of Morgan's camp. A secret spy reported to our subject, who transmitted the information received to the commanding officer at Louisville. Upon discovering how matters stood the rebels became greatly enraged, and seemed determined to capture Mr. Brooks. Several times they sent cavalry to take him, and as often did he succeed in eluding them. On more than one occasion he only managed to do so by jumping from a second story window, from which they sent bullets after him as he fled.

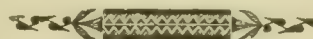
For six weeks Mr. Brooks was thus employed, every moment of the time in jeopardy, and carrying his life in his hands. At the end of that period he was transferred to the Army of the Cumberland. At Morgan's raid he saw the rebels coming through the town at a sweeping gait, and escaped under cover of an adjacent and convenient cornfield to the woods, and thence to a pasture, where he was assisted to a horse by a Union man, and made good his escape, but only by a hair's breadth. At Green River bridge he came to a company of Union men, and staid with them; together they saw Lebanon burn. He was in the employ of the Government until 1865. He was captured by Wheeler in 1864, and afterward paroled, and upon returning to the Union lines was transferred to the Army of the Potomac, and was in service at Harper's Ferry and along the line of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. At the close of the war, and at the time of the as-

sassination of Lincoln, he was in the United States Telegraph Office at Washington, D. C. In the fall of 1865, owing to a broken condition of health, he was compelled to leave the service.

Mr. Brooks next procured a wagon and team, and by the aid thereof journeyed across the plains to New Mexico, driving by day and camping wherever he could find a convenient and secure place at night, for Indian raids at that time were by no means uncommon. From New Mexico he went to Denver, and returned to Missouri in the year 1866, and there enlisted under the State to help suppress guerrilla warfare. He was in camp at Independence, Mo., and served for a time, and afterward went to Virginia and took up his old work. There he met and married Miss Susan Sturm, on the 26th of December, 1866. Of this marriage there were born four children, of whom only two daughters, Ollie and Flora, are still living.

In the year 1868 Mr. Brooks removed with his family to Nebraska, and became the agent of the Union Pacific Railroad in the mountains while the railroad was in course of construction, a greater part of the time being surrounded by a community which by no means appreciated the action of the company, and on that account were anything but congenial. This continued until the spring of 1869, when he retired to a farm in Nemaha County, which he purchased and remained upon it one year. He assisted in the construction of the telegraph line west of Dorchester, to Sutton, etc. His family was the first to live in Fairmont, Fillmore County. Thence he went to Beatrice, and was there stationed until he went to Lincoln as ticket agent for the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. Leaving Lincoln, he went to Nebraska City as commercial operator, and afterward was appointed as agent at Tecumseh for the Atchison & Nebraska Railroad. There he remained until the transfer of this road to the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad, when he was made station agent for the consolidated railroad. In all he has been agent here for the past fourteen years, and is one of the most respected men of the city. His sterling worth, ability and character are all testified to by the confidence reposed in him by the company throughout this lengthy period.

Mr. Brooks has been a member of the City Council for five years, and has served with the greatest satisfaction to those by whom he was placed in the Council chamber. He is an enthusiastic member of the Masonic fraternity, and has made the institution the subject of careful investigation. In connection therewith he has studied closely the sacred volume, and has produced a Masonic Bible chart that has been highly spoken of by those who know it. He is the owner of a fine residence on Third street, south of the depot, and there makes his home. In addition to this he possesses other important and valuable town property, also a farm two and one-half miles southwest of the city, and a half-section of land in the State of Kansas.



**N**ATHANIEL O. BINER is a representative citizen of Johnson County, living on section 5, township 6 north, range 11 east, in Helena Precinct, where he owns 160 acres of good land. He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, Feb. 2, 1836, a son of Wesley and Ann Biner, natives of Virginia and New Jersey respectively. To this union seven children were born, and six are yet living: George W., Isaac L. and John M. are residents of Allen County, Ohio; Rebecca is the widow of John Hanz, now living in Butler County, Kan.; Sarah E. is the wife of Tilman Wilkins, and also lives in Allen County, Ohio, and Mary A. is deceased.

Our subject was the eldest of the family, and was seventeen years old when his mother died. He lived with his father and grew to manhood in his native State, where he received such education as was afforded by the district schools of that day. He was sixteen years old when the family removed to Allen County, Ohio, which was the scene of his mother's death, and where his father had, in 1851, bought a tract of Government land, on which he still lives. In the fall of 1864 our subject determined to start out for himself, and going to Illinois, resided there for a few months; from there he went to Wisconsin, working in various places in that State until the fall of 1867, when he came to Johnson County, Neb., where he purchased and



settled upon his present farm. It was then in a state of nature, but by much hard work, energy and good judgment, he has made it a productive farm and a valuable property.

In March, 1880, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Arminta Miller, by whom he is the father of four children—Mary B., Orren N., Ada E. and Ernest. Mr. Biner enjoys the esteem and confidence of the people with whom he associates, and who respect him for his upright principles and sterling character. He and his wife are leaders in the social circles of their vicinity, and in politics he is a Republican.



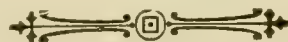
**D**R. MALCOLM STEWART, physician and surgeon, and one who has built up for himself a good record as a conscientious and able practitioner, is a Scotchman by birth and ancestry, a native of the city of Glasgow, where he first opened his eyes to the light Oct. 30, 1858. His father, John Stewart, crossed the Atlantic with his family in 1870, and making his way west of the Mississippi, settled upon a tract of land in Black Hawk County, Iowa. There Malcolm was reared to manhood, and remained on the farm of his father until 1878.

Our subject had in the meantime begun a practical education, which was completed in the State Normal School at Cedar Falls, from which he was graduated in June, 1881. In September following he was given charge of the Cascade (Iowa) schools, where he acquitted himself creditably one year, and in 1882 came to Tecumseh and conducted the first Teachers' Institute ever held here. He desired, however, something different from the duties of a teacher, and in the meantime had already availed himself of some of the best medical works within his reach, which he studied attentively, and prepared himself to enter the medical department of the State University of Iowa City. He applied himself faithfully, and was graduated with honors on the 5th of March, 1884.

In May of the year above mentioned Dr. Stewart established himself in Vesta, where he began the regular practice of his profession, and where he has

built up a good business. He has spent very few idle moments, and from the time of his coming here has been recognized as a valued addition to the community. He is prominent in local affairs and one of the most reliable members of the Republican party in this part of the State. He believes in protection to American industries, and has filled many positions of trust and responsibility, in which he has sought to uphold the principles of his party in that conscientious manner which is one of the characteristics of the man. He has been elected Coroner, filling that position creditably. Both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and their home is a favorite resort for the cultivated people of their community. The Doctor is young in years, but has kept his eyes open to what was going on around him, and if he is spared will round up his days in usefulness.

Dr. Stewart was married, June 22, 1884, to Miss Mary E. McGee, daughter of Thomas C. McGee, M. D., who died in Vesta, this county. Of this union there is one child, a son, Charles E. The Doctor and his little family occupy a neat residence, where they are surrounded by all the comforts of life. They occupy a good position socially, and the Doctor, both as a member of society and of one of the leading professions, bids fair to make his mark in the world. He has thus far been remarkably successful, being in the enjoyment of a lucrative practice, which is steadily increasing.



**W**ILLIAM W. PERRY came to Spring Creek Precinct with his family in the spring of 1880, and settled on his present farm of 160 acres, comprising the southeast quarter of section 9. With the exception of eighty acres broken there had been but little attempt at improvement. He moved a frame house from M. D. Raymond's, moved into it, and soon afterward began the struggle with the soil in which he has come off victor, having now a good farm with suitable buildings, and being surrounded with all the comforts of life. His family comprises a most estimable wife and four children, two of whom continue at home with



their parents, these being sons, Edward M. and Austin A.; the other son is Thomas B. The only daughter, Martha, is the wife of H. L. Shaw, and resides in Elbert County, Colo.

Mr. Perry gives special attention to the raising of good stock, including cattle, horses and swine. He has made farming a lifelong occupation, beginning his career as an agriculturist on the soil of Cass County, Ind., where he assisted his father in the building up of a homestead among the pioneers of that region. He was born in Washington County, Pa., Nov. 26, 1830, and when a lad six years of age was taken by his parents to Cass County, Ind., where he was reared to manhood. He is the son of Reuben and Cynthia (Coleman) Perry, who were natives of Washington and Greene Counties, Pa., and the mother of English ancestry. Reuben Perry, during the War of 1812, enlisted as a soldier, but owing to his ill-health did not engage in active service, and was obliged to return to the pursuits of a more quiet life. The parental household included six children, of whom four are still living, namely: Thomas F., of Brownville, Neb.; Ezra, of Barber County, Kan; Harriet, Mrs. Henry Merritt, of Nemaha County, this State, and William W., of our sketch.

The Perry family took up their abode in Cass County, Ind., in the spring of 1837, and there the parents spent the remainder of their lives, the mother passing away in 1873, and the father two years later, in 1875, at a ripe old age. William W., like his brothers and sisters, was reared amid the scenes of pioneer life, which, with all its difficulties, was not unmixed with pleasure, and participated,

with other diversions, in many a log rolling in the Hoosier State. His education was conducted in the district school, and he took kindly to his books, developing into a teacher, at which profession he was engaged four terms. Aside from this interruption in his career he has followed farming mostly since the time he was old enough to be of service in handling a hoe or guiding a plow. He, however, learned bricklaying under the instruction of his father, who was master of this trade, and operated considerably as a contractor in Cass County.

When nearly twenty-seven years old Mr. Perry, having in view the establishment of a home of his own, was married, Jan. 15, 1857, in Cass County, Ind., to Miss Mary M. Johnston, who was born in Clarke County, Ohio, April 24, 1833. Her parents, James and Mary R. (Burgess) Johnston, were natives of Ireland and Virginia, and spent their last years in Ohio. Their family consisted of eleven children, six of whom are now living.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry continued residents of Indiana until coming to Nebraska, Mr. P. having built up a good farm in Liberty Township, Fulton County. He cast his first Presidential vote for Gen. Scott, and, politically, is a staunch Republican. The people of Spring Creek Precinct readily recognized his good qualities, both as a farmer and a citizen, and in the fall of 1885 he was elected Justice of the Peace. He has never desired office, however, and declined to qualify for this position, preferring to give his time and attention to his farming interests. He is a man of advanced ideas, fully posted upon the general topics of the day.







PAWNEE COUNTY,  
NEBRASKA.











*F. F. Living*





**F**IELDING F. LIMING. The early pioneers of Pawnee County were as a rule men of strong principles and wonderful energy. They endured hardships that are unknown to their children, and the least that their posterity can do is to think of them with due respect and perpetuate their memories by the best means possible, while they enjoy the advantages of that education which the industry and integrity of their fathers secured for them. These thoughts seem particularly applicable in reviewing the record of him whose name stands at the head of this sketch. He has for years been numbered among the prominent farmers of Pawnee Precinct, but has now wisely retired from the active labors of life, and is spending his declining years in the enjoyment of the fruits of his industry.

The Liming family in earlier times was widely and favorably known throughout Brown County, Ohio, which our subject claims as his birthplace, and where he began life on the 9th of January, 1831. His parents, Ahira D. and Villeta (White) Liming, were also natives of the Buckeye State, both born in 1801, the father at the mouth of the Licking River and the mother near the same locality. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Liming, was of French descent, and the mother of our subject was the daughter of Judge White, who presided over the court of the circuit, including Brown County. Both the grandparents spent their last years upon the soil of the Buckeye State.

There grew up around the parental fireside of our

subject's parents a large family of children, eleven in number, four of whom are still living. Fielding F. attended school in his native State until a lad of eleven years, and then the family all moved to Washington County, Iowa, where he reached man's estate. He was trained to habits of industry and economy, and in common with his brothers and sisters assisted in carrying on the farm, remaining under the parental roof until in the twenty-fourth year of his age.

March 8, 1855, Mr. Liming was united in marriage, in Washington County, Iowa, with Miss Lucinda, the daughter of Abraham and Susanna (Eulows) Kelley. This lady was born Nov. 13, 1827, in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Liming lived in Iowa until the summer of 1857, and then our subject pushed on further westward, settling in this county. He pre-empted 160 acres of land north of the present site of Pawnee City. Upon this he labored a number of years, effecting many improvements, putting up buildings and setting out fruit and shade trees. Then, desirous of a change of occupation he invested a portion of his capital in general merchandise, establishing a store at Pawnee City, which he operated three years, then closed out. Several years later he formed a partnership with ex-Gov. Butler and W. B. Raper, the firm being Butler, Raper & Liming, and in due time our subject exchanged his interest in the business for his home farm, which now embraces 220 acres on section 28, in Pawnee Precinct. It is conveniently located one and one-half miles from the city, and is devoted

largely to the raising of live stock. Mr. Liming has been remarkably successful in this industry, selling largely to feeders, and also shipping. He thus utilizes the most of his grain. He also owns 320 acres of land in Pawnee County aside from his home.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Liming comprises two sons only, Daniel R. and John Elmer, who are both at home with their parents. Mr. L., politically, is a solid Republican. His inclinations were most firmly set in this direction after the firing of the first gun on Ft. Sumter. In 1859 he was elected Treasurer of Pawnee County to complete the term of Christian Bobbs, and was then regularly elected to the same office, in which he served five years in all. Later he served as County Commissioner three years. In religious matters he is identified with the Christian Church, and socially, belongs to Interior Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F.

Mr. Liming erected the first house in which he resided in Pawnee City, both for a store and dwelling, one and a half stories in height. This he sold later. His little son, Andrew Perry, was the first child born in Pawnee City. The property of our subject is unencumbered, and considering the fact that he came to this county with limited means it must be admitted that he has made a good record. He has ever strictly observed that important factor in the life of every successful man, honesty, and in this respect ever adheres to the dictates of his conscience, both in public and private. The natural result of this is that he is a man universally esteemed, and one whose word is considered as good as his bond.

A portrait of this leading citizen of the county, who has been such an important factor in its growth and development, appears on an adjoining page.



**J**OHN BOOMGAARN. As a farmer of marked ability, forethought, and force of character, who brings a clear head and a well-trained intellect to bear upon his work, the subject of this sketch has played an important part in the development of the magnificent agricultural resources of Pawnee County, and while so doing he

has become very prosperous himself, and is now the owner of a beautiful farm, on whose broad, fertile acres many sleek, well-graded cattle and fine blooded horses roam, while the well-tilled fields are productive of rich harvests, and, in the words of one of the beloved poets of the German Fatherland, "His garner is filled with the gold of the grain." Mr. Boomgaarn's farm is finely located, partly on section 13, northeast quarter of township 3, range 12, and 240 acres in Richardson County, making 400 acres of land of unsurpassed fertility.

Mr. Boomgaarn was born in Germany, Dec. 16, 1852, and his parents, John and Maggie (Schilling) Boomgaarn, were likewise natives of that country, his father's birth occurring Oct. 29, 1827, and his mother's Sept. 14, 1827. To them were born six children, three of whom lived to come to America, but our subject is the only member of the family now living. After coming to this country Mr. Boomgaarn, Sr., settled first in Pekin, Ill., and being an educated man he obtained employment shortly after in the wholesale and retail store of Henry Velde & Co., and remained with them several years. In 1871 he came to Nebraska with his family and started a sheep ranch on section 11. In 1884 he sold out and located in Richardson County, and there he and his wife are still living, honored and esteemed by all who know them for their blameless Christian lives, and for what they have done to advance the material interests of Nebraska. They are devoted members of the Lutheran Church.

Our subject received the preliminaries of a liberal education in the Fatherland, where his boyhood was passed until he was thirteen years old. At that age he accompanied his parents to the United States, and in Pekin, Tazewell Co., Ill., was well grounded in the English language and other branches of study. After leaving school he became clerk in the wholesale and retail grocery store of Henry Velde & Co., the same establishment in which his father was employed. He remained with them three years, and in the meantime worked his way up to a responsible position. In 1871, in the winter season, he came to this State with his father's family, and settled on the quarter of section 13 on which he still makes his home. It was at that time wild, uncultivated land, and



Mr. Boomgaarn turned the first furrow and set out the first trees, and he now has 200 acres under plow, having added to his original purchase, and the remainder is in pasturage or cultivated timber, of which he has set out six acres, and he has a good orchard. All of his first quarter-section is neatly hedged, and the other is fenced with one-half hedge and one-half wire. He built a good dwelling, 12x20, drawing the lumber from Brownville, that being his nearest market to which he carried his produce. He at first devoted his land to the culture of grain, and as his means allowed introduced stock-raising, and now has a fine herd of sixty graded Short-horns, and he has sixty hogs of mixed Poland-China-Berkshire breed, all in fine condition and free from disease, and he also raises horses.

Mr. Boomgaarn came here with a capital of \$1,000, which, by judicious investment, superior management, and a free expenditure of time and muscle, he has so increased that he is now classed among the wealthy farmers of Pawnee County, and his farm is one of the most productive, extensive and profitable estates for miles around. He has naturally taken great interest in the welfare of his adopted township, and has by no means been backward in encouraging any enterprise that tended to advance its material prosperity. He assisted in the organization of School District No. 40, and his father was first Moderator, and in that capacity helped to build the school-house. Our subject is no politician, but is always to be found at the polls supporting the party of his choice, which for the last five years has been the Democratic party, he having formerly affiliated with the Republicans. He is a thoughtful, straightforward, manly man, who is true in all the relations of life in which he has been placed. As a son, he is dutiful and affectionate; as a husband, thoughtful and devoted; as a father, tender and loving; as a neighbor, kind and considerate.

The marriage of Mr. Boomgaarn with Miss Jennie Schilling took place April 30, 1879, and has been blessed to them by the birth of five children, namely: John, Fred, Maggie, Harmon and Jennie. Mrs. Boomgaarn is also a native of Germany, born in that far-away Empire Jan. 17, 1858, a daughter of Fred S. and Maggie (Myers) Schilling, natives

of Germany. They came to America in 1871, settled first in Illinois, then moved to Iowa, from there to Southern Minnesota, whence they came to this State in January, 1879. The parents are now living in Minnesota, where the father is engaged in farming. They have had eight children, of whom six are living.



**H**ENRY HUNZEKER, one of the most extensive, prosperous and influential agriculturists of Pawnee County, has a fine farm lying on sections 23, 26, 35 and 36, Sheridan Precinct, where he has lived since coming to this State as a pioneer, in 1856. He is a native of that thrifty little Republic across the sea, Switzerland, where his birth occurred Oct. 8, 1835. He remained among the beautiful scenes of his native land until nineteen years of age, when, thinking to better his condition, he left kith and kin and emigrated to the United States, locating first in Stark County, Ohio. His small sum of money giving out he immediately sought employment, and the following seventeen weeks labored hard for the insignificant pittance of seventy-five cents a week.

The next year we find our subject working in Andrew County, Mo., where he was paid \$15 a month, and \$1 a hundred besides for making rails. By steady toil and judicious economy he was enabled to save enough money in the few months that he remained there to buy a yoke of cattle, a cow, several needed implements, and some extra money which he wished to invest in land. Conceiving the Territory of Nebraska to possess many desirable advantages for the farmer, such as cheap land, good climate, etc., our subject decided to settle here. Starting on foot for the promised land, he arrived in this county in June, 1856, pre-empted 120 acres of wild prairie land, and became the first settler in Sheridan Precinct, and one of the first in Pawnee County. In 1857 he set out some trees, built a small house and began to improve his farm. Later he took up a homestead claim adjoining his first claim, and to his original acreage he has since added, as he could afford to, paying from \$1.25 to \$10 an acre, until he now has a magnificent farm of



760 acres, all under good cultivation. He has a fine orchard of six or seven acres which he set out in 1866, and also five or six miles of hedge around and across his farm. He has evinced rare skill, tact and sound judgment in the management and beautifying of his farm, which is a credit to him and an ornament to the county.

Mr. Hunzeker has erected a fine, commodious stone house, quarrying all the material, excepting the corner stone, on his farm, and he has built an extensive barn, 44x60 feet, with an addition 32x38 feet. He makes a study of agriculture, and carries it on after the most approved methods, and has all the modern implements for doing so. Our subject is one of the most extensive corn raisers of the county, harvesting 150 acres or more each year. He also pays much attention to stock-raising, his principal grade of cattle being Holsteins, he having been the original introducer of that breed in this county. His first Holstein bull he bought of George A. Brown, the well-known stock dealer of Aurora, Ill., paying \$250 and the freight for a calf ten months old. He has since continually added fine thoroughbreds to his stock, having this year purchased two animals at a cost of \$225 each, his herd containing now about a hundred head of cattle. Mr. Hunzeker pays considerable attention to horse breeding, having quite a number of horses of good grades.

As one of the original settlers of this part of the State our subject has been an eye-witness and an active participator in the many wondrous changes that have been effected in Pawnee County. Until 1865 St. Joseph, Mo., was the nearest trading place, it taking a week to make the round trip with an ox-team. The nearest post-office was in Salem, a town in Richardson County. Mr. Hunzeker has materially aided all schemes for the improvement of this precinct, in which he has an abiding interest. He helped to organize the school district and the road district, and in 1857 assisted in building the first bridge in the county, which is one mile southeast of Table Rock Precinct, he putting in the first stroke of work himself. For nine or ten years he has been Road Supervisor, and for the larger part of the time since coming here either Moderator, Director or Treasurer of the school district, always

serving with fidelity in whatever office he is placed. He is a self-made man in every sense implied by the term, and his honest and useful career furnishes an example to the rising generation of what may be accomplished by courageous industry, integrity and moral rectitude. Socially, Mr. Hunzeker is a member of the Masonic fraternity. In politics he usually casts his vote with the Democratic party.

The union of our subject with Miss Mary Stadler took place in St. Joseph, Mo., Oct. 23, 1863. She is also a native of Switzerland, born in September, 1834, and remained in her native country until twenty-nine years of age, when she emigrated to the United States. She came directly to the West, and was married in St. Joseph. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Hunzeker eight children have been born, seven of whom are now living; their names are as follows: Louise, Rebecca, Henry, Emma, Samuel, William, Lewis and Mary E. Rebecca married Horace Chapman, of this precinct, and they have one child, James Henry. All the others are at home with their parents.



**H**ENRY L. AIKINS has been identified with the mercantile interests of this county for a period of six years. He retired from active business in 1888, and is now spending his declining days amid the comforts of a pleasant and attractive home in Pawnee City. His native place was Morgansville, Morgan Co., Ohio, where his birth took place Jan. 30, 1834, and he numbered the third in a family of eleven children, two of whom died when one and twenty years old, respectively.

William and Ann (Pennell) Aikins, the parents of our subject, are still living. Henry L. spent his younger years in Vinton County, Ohio, to which his parents had removed, and varied the monotony of rural life by attendance at the district school, after which he worked on the farm until reaching his majority. Soon afterward he was married, May 30, 1855, to Miss Mary Hitt, of Vinton County, whose home was near Mt. Pleasant. She was the daughter of Peter and Rebecca (Nye) Hitt, and was

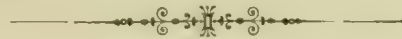
born Feb. 28, 1839. Her parents were natives respectively of Virginia and Pennsylvania. Their family included ten children, of whom Mrs. Aikins was the fourth in order of birth, and all of whom lived to have families except one, a son who died when four years old.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Aikins left the Buckeye State and took up their abode on a farm in Henry County, Ill. The outbreak of the Civil War shortly afterward turned the attention of our subject in another direction, and he decided to shoulder his musket and assist in the preservation of the Union. He enlisted in Company H, 11th Illinois Cavalry, under command of Col. Robert Ingersoll, and, with his comrades, participated in some of the most important battles which followed, namely: Pittsburg Landing, the siege of Corinth, Park's Cross Roads, the second battle of Corinth, and in numerous minor engagements. After the surrender of Vicksburg they were stationed at that point for a time, and Mr. Aikins endured the common lot of the soldier, its privations, its hairbreadth escapes, but came out of the conflict unharmed, being mustered out at Memphis, Tenn., in December, 1865, after a faithful service of three years and one month. He served all through the war as a non-commissioned officer, and frequently commanded the company while in battle.

In the meantime, while Mr. Aikins was in the army, his wife removed back to her parents in Ohio. In the spring of 1866 she accompanied him to this county, Mr. Aikins taking up a homestead claim in Pawnee Precinct, where he improved a good farm, and lived for a period of nineteen years. After bringing the soil to a thorough state of cultivation he turned his attention to stock-raising, breeding large numbers of cattle and swine. He prosecuted this industry until 1884, when he removed to Pawnee City, and purchased the stock of drugs and groceries belonging to J. B. Samuels. He engaged in this department of trade four years, then traded the stock for a farm in Osborne County, Kan., which is the property of himself and his son Amos R. He still retains possession of the old homestead of 160 acres.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Aikins are recorded as follows: Amos R. is the eldest; Arletta is the

wife of William Miner, a resident of DuBois, this State; William A. occupies the old homestead, and has an adopted daughter, named Emma, at home. Mr. Aikins has served as Deputy Sheriff of Pawnee County, and held other positions of trust. He is conservative in politics, with leanings toward Republicanism. He began at the foot of the ladder in the accumulation of his property, and the result is a fine illustration of what may be accomplished by diligence and economy.



**HUGH GABBY.** No man within the limits of Pawnee County stands higher, socially, than the subject of this record, who occupies a fine farm on section 29 in Sheridan Precinct. He has 120 acres of land highly cultivated and very productive, and has added by degrees the modern improvements suggested to the progressive agriculturist, erecting buildings, planting fruit and shade trees, and bringing about himself and family all of the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

The family residence of our subject invariably attracts the admiring eye of all who pass by it. It is a large, elegant frame structure, put up in modern style of architecture, covering an area of 28x32 feet, two stories in height and with an L. It is well finished and handsomely furnished, and, with its surroundings, forms a very attractive picture in the landscape of this region. Mr. Gabby has himself effected nearly all the improvements which have made his property so valuable. His specialty is stock-raising, including large numbers of horses, cattle and swine, high-grade and registered animals, his cattle being the Holstein breed, his horses Norman and Clydesdale, and his swine are the favorite Poland-Chinas. He has labored early and late in the improvement of his property, following the plow himself many a day, planting many of his trees with his own hands, thus adopting the surest means of getting on in the world. A man kindly and generous among his neighbors, he is held in universal esteem, while his upright business transactions have made for him a record of which his children will never be ashamed.



Our subject received his first impressions of life in the Keystone State, having been born in Washington County, Sept. 8, 1850, and he continued a resident there until 1883. He acquired his education in the common schools, and worked on the farm in Pennsylvania until coming West. To his parents, William and Margaret (McClelland) Gabby, there were born thirteen children, of whom nine are still living, making their homes mostly in Pennsylvania. The father was born in Washington County, Pa., Sept. 14, 1803, and lived at the homestead where he was born a period of nearly eighty years, his death taking place May 20, 1883. There he began housekeeping with his bride, and they spent fifty years together. The mother is still living at the old homestead in Washington County. They were people highly respected in their community, and William Gabby was for over forty years a member in good standing of the Session of the United Presbyterian Church. The paternal grandfather, James Gabby, was, it is supposed, a native of Scotland, and settled in Washington County, Pa., at an early day, taking up land from the Government before the Indians had left the county. He also spent his last days at the same old farm.

Our subject was the third youngest son of his parents, and he remained at the old farm until the death of the father. Upon reaching man's estate he was married to a maiden of his own county, Miss Mattie Brownlee, who was born June 30, 1856. She is the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Brownlee, who lived upon a farm in Washington County the greater part of their married life. The mother yet survives, and lives in Monmouth, Ill. Mrs. Gabby received a common-school education, and continued a member of the parental household until her marriage. Her union with our subject resulted in the birth of four children—Samuel Brownlee, Charles E., Mary and Margaret E. They are all at home with their parents, and are being given the training and education which will fit them for their proper position in life as the offspring of their excellent and worthy parents.

Upon leaving Pennsylvania Mr. Gabby settled first near Plattsmouth, in Cass County, where he lived a year, but not being pleased with the out-

look there changed his residence to this county, mostly on account of its better church and school advantages. Mr. Gabby has always entertained a warm interest in the temperance movement, and in 1887 allied himself with the Prohibition party. Both he and his excellent wife belong to the United Presbyterian Church, in the doctrines of which Mr. G. was reared from boyhood. He holds the office of Elder, and is interested in Sabbath-school work, giving liberally of his time and means to advance the cause of the Master.



**F**ERDINAND BSTANDIG. It is to the men of active brain, liberal spirit, fertile expedients, progressive views, good business and financial tact, that the village of Burchard looks to give an impetus to her commerce, manufactures and other interests, and, as a representative of such, we present the subject of this sketch, who is engaged in the furniture and undertaking business. He opened a furniture store here in January, 1883, in connection with John P. Swallow, which partnership continued until 1886, when Mr. Bstandig bought Mr. Swallow's interest, and has since conducted the business alone. In 1887 he put up his present building, fitted it up in good style, and after moving into it increased his stock, and now has the largest establishment in town, and carries on an extensive and remunerative business in both departments. Although he devotes the most of his time to his store, he looks after his farming interests, and carries on agriculture on a small scale. He owns a good farm of 120 acres, finely located on section 18, Miles Precinct.

Mr. Bstandig was born in Austria, in Bohemia, May 30, 1849, he being derived of an honorable and wealthy ancestry, who were among the leading citizens of his native town, taking a prominent part in the civic life thereof. His parents, Carl and Johanna (Bohm) Bstandig, were also natives of Bohemia. His paternal grandfather, Anton Bstandig, was born in the same place, and was at one time Mayor of the city of Scheles. He was for many years actively engaged in the fur trade, and



manufactured fur clothes. He also engaged in agricultural pursuits to some extent, having a large farm, and he was a man of wealth. He died in 1876, at the age of eighty years. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Wenzl Bohm, was a Bohemian by birth, a native of that country, and for some time held the office of Town Clerk. He was a farmer, well-to-do in this world's goods, owning a large estate. He was a lifelong resident of his native Province, dying there in 1884, at the venerable age of eighty-four years. The father of our subject, besides looking after his small farm in his native Province, was engaged at his trade as a tanner, and also carried on the fur business. In 1867 he migrated to the United States, and settling in Chicago engaged in different kinds of work in that city until 1870, when he decided to locate in Nebraska, to try farming on her rich soil. Accordingly he came by rail to Pawnee County, and purchased a tract of 120 acres of wild land in Miles Precinct. He improved it into a fine, productive farm, and is still engaged in farming and stock-raising on his old homestead. He has accumulated a comfortable competence, and with his wife is enjoying it in a cozy home, he being now seventy years old, and she sixty-eight years. They are consistent and esteemed members of the Catholic Church, and are looked upon with respect and consideration by all who know them. Of their married life four children have been born, as follows: Ferdinand; Annie, in Chicago; Mary, dead; Joseph, in Nebraska.

He of whom we write received the foundation of his education in a private or pay school, which he attended until he was twelve years of age. He was then a pupil in a High School for six months. When about fourteen years of age the stern realities of life began for him, as he was then apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade. He served about three years, and was a journeyman after that for awhile, mostly in Germany. He then returned to his old home and started with his parents for the United States, embarking at Bremen on the steamer "Baltic," and after a somewhat tempestuous voyage, being tossed about on the ocean for eighteen days, they landed in New York. Thence they proceeded to Chicago, where our subject found work

at his trade, and during his residence in that city he was employed in different furniture factories. In 1870 he came with his parents to Nebraska, and besides assisting his father on the farm he worked at the carpenter's trade. In 1872 our subject went to Nebraska City, and there worked in a furniture store at the cabinet-maker's trade about a year. He then returned to Miles Precinct, and remained on his father's farm, assisting him in the management of it until 1874.

September 15 of that year Mr. Bstandig was married, in Pawnee County, to Miss Mary Wanka. She is also a native of Austria, born in 1848, and came to America in 1874. Six children complete the household of our subject and his wife, as follows: Frederick, born Aug. 8, 1875; Annie, Jan. 18, 1877; Charles, Dec. 21, 1878; Fannie, Nov. 22, 1881; Frank, April 30, 1883; Mary, May 10, 1885. All are at home and will receive every advantage for a sound education that their parents can afford them.

After marriage Mr. Bstandig bought 120 acres of land, with no improvements, on section 18, Miles Precinct. He immediately proceeded to break the soil for cultivation, set out groves of forest trees and an orchard, drew lumber from Table Rock, and erected a neat house, barns and other out-buildings, partly fenced his land with wire, and in a few years had as good and well-tilled a farm as there was anywhere in the precinct. It was situated at the head of Plum Creek, and was admirably adapted to stock-raising or the culture of the cereals, etc., in both of which our subject was interested. When he established himself in his present business in January, 1883, he rented his farm.

Although of foreign birth our subject is thoroughly imbued with the Republican spirit of our institutions, and these United States have no more loyal citizen than he. His public spirit is too well known to need comment here, as he is active in promoting every good cause, and all plans for the advancement of the material welfare of the town, using his influence and money freely for any such purpose. He was partly instrumental in securing the passage of the Burlington & Missouri River Railway through here, which has proved of much benefit in building up the town. A part of his

money is invested in the bonds of the company. His clear, cool head and sound judgment have been of great use in the adjustment of local affairs, especially in educational matters, as he is a member of the School Board. He has been Supervisor for nine years. Politically, he is identified with the Union Labor party, which finds in him one of its staunchest supporters, and he has been a delegate to State Conventions. He has served on the jury. He and his wife are members of the Catholic Church, and are among its active workers.

**JOHN W. EDGERTON.** The beholder in casting his eyes over the well-regulated farm of which this gentleman has been the proprietor since 1857, recognizes at once that it has been under the supervision of a man of more than ordinary intelligence. The land is fertile and well cultivated, and the buildings are neat and substantial, and finely adapted to the purposes of general agriculture. The residence with its surroundings forms a pleasant picture of the ideal country home.

Our subject is the youngest son of his parents, Thomas and Mary Edgerton, and was born June 22, 1837, in Indiana. Thomas Edgerton was a native of North Carolina, where he was reared to man's estate, and married Miss Mary Osborn, whose birthplace was not far from that of her husband. Soon after marriage they removed to Ohio, where they sojourned a few years, then pushed on further westward into Wayne County, Ind. Later they changed their residence to Grant County, in the same State, where the father died July 27, 1844. The mother survived her husband, her death taking place in Fremont County, Iowa, March 19, 1857.

Five children completed the parental household of our subject. After the decease of his father the mother removed to Iowa, and in the spring of 1857 John W. decided to cast his lot among the people of Nebraska Territory. He entered a tract of land on section 30, in Clay Precinct, where he has since lived and labored to such good advantage. When first settling here his nearest neighbor was five

miles away, and there was not a building to mark the present site of Pawnee City. Mr. Edgerton was unmarried when first coming here, and he put up a house of round logs in which he kept bachelor's hall until taking unto himself a wife and helpmate.

This interesting event in the life of our subject occurred on the 27th of February, 1859, his bride being Miss Mary, daughter of P. M. Rogers. The young people settled down upon the new farm where they have since lived, and it is hardly necessary to say that it possesses for them a more than moneyed value. Here their eight children were born, named respectively: David, Sarah, George, Ellen, Lafayette, Emma, Eva and Clyde. They are all living. Sarah is the wife of Calvin Plummer, and they live in Southern Kansas. The others are at home with their parents.

The Edgerton homestead comprises 240 acres of land, most of which is enclosed with neat and substantial fencing. Mr. E. makes a specialty of stock-raising, keeping excellent grades of horses and swine. He is no politician, but keeps himself posted upon events of general interest, and uniformly votes the Republican ticket. He signalized his patriotism during the late war by enlisting as a soldier in the 2d Nebraska Cavalry, serving nine months, and operating mostly on the frontier fighting the Indians. In religious matters he rather adheres to the Quaker faith in which he was reared.

The parents of Mrs. Edgerton removed from their native State to Fremont County, Iowa, in the fall of 1854, and thence, in February, 1856, to Nebraska Territory. The journey being made during the winter season, they crossed the Missouri on the ice, and on the 1st of April removed to the tract of land which now comprises the farm of Robert T. Scott. The father had united with the Methodist Church when twenty-one years old, and from that time until his death remained an earnest worker in the cause which he espoused in his youth. He began preaching at an early age, being the pioneer of this county in this respect, and was the means of doing great good. His entire family was born in Tennessee, and the removal from that State to Iowa was made overland with horses and oxen,



they being on the road ten weeks. They arrived at their destination in November, and spent the winter following after the manner of most pioneers in that lonely region, enduring many hardships and difficulties. The journey thence to Nebraska was made in a similar manner. Upon their arrival in this county their nearest neighbors were four miles away, and Indians were still to be seen at intervals roaming over the country.

Among other distinguishing traits in the character of Rev. Rogers was his strong advocacy of temperance principles, of which he made a practical application in his daily life. He refused to sell his corn to shippers when it was likely that his neighbors might need it for provision. He would often sell to the poor, and allow them to pay for it whenever they could. His life from beginning to end was the exponent of a practical Christianity, which consisted in not letting his right hand know what his left was doing.

Mr. Edgerton came to Nebraska with a capital of ten cents in his pocket, and has battled with sickness and other misfortunes, but in spite of all has made a good record, accumulated a comfortable property, and has enough to enable him to live at ease in his declining years. He is methodical in his business transactions, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects has acquitted himself as an honest man and a good citizen.

**S**AMUEL S. BECKER, one of the early settlers of Table Rock Precinct, as a farmer of more than ordinary intelligence, practical ability and enterprise, holds an assured position in the agricultural community of Pawnee County, and he and his family occupy one of the pleasantest and most attractive residences of the precinct mentioned. His fine farm on section 26, township 3, range 12, which he has developed from the wild prairie, is well stocked, well watered, and in point of cultivation, neat and tasty farm buildings, and other valuable improvements, compares with the best in this vicinity.

Our subject is a native of the State of Pennsylvania, born in Bedford County, Feb. 8, 1832. His

parents, John B. and Teressa (Adams) Becker, were likewise natives of the Keystone State, their birthplace being in Adams County. In 1842 they removed with their family to Canton Township, Stark Co., Ohio, and there cast in their lot with the pioneers who had preceded them, and hewed out a farm for themselves from the wilderness. Mr. Becker first erected a log house for the shelter of his family, and later replaced it by a more commodious frame house. He subsequently moved with his family to South Bend, Ind., and there died in 1862, at the ripe old age of seventy-four years. His wife died in 1859, aged about sixty-seven. Besides carrying on farming, he was engaged as a miller for many years. He and his wife were devoted members of the Catholic Church, and their daily lives being guided by high Christian principles, they were well worthy of the esteem and respect in which they were held by all who knew them.

He of whom we write was one of a family of eleven children, of whom nine lived to maturity. He was ten years old when his parents migrated to Ohio, and there he received a good, practical common-school education. He accompanied his parents to Indiana, and lived in their home until he was twenty years old. Then, filled with the high ambitions of youth, being strong, vigorous and self-reliant, he set out to seek his fortune in the gold fields of California, in 1852. In company with eight others from Michigan, with four teams, containing the usual loads, he crossed the plains, passing through this part of the country when there were no settlements this side of the Missouri River, going through where now stands Seneca, Kan., and Marysville, on the old trail. They were six months on the road, and at Salt Lake City, which had then been in existence but six years, they abandoned their teams, and proceeded on their way with pack horses, arriving at their destination in Placerville, in the Golden State, in September. Our subject went right into the mines, and was very successful in his search for gold. He continued to reside there for eighteen years, and a part of the time was engaged in business quite extensively as a carriage and wagon manufacturer, and a blacksmith. He was very prosperous, and



built up a fine home on a beautiful plat of land, embracing twenty-two acres in the suburbs of Placerville, that even at that time cost \$2,200. He erected a good house, planted a vineyard, and made many valuable improvements besides.

While on the Pacific Coast Mr. Becker's marriage to his amiable and accomplished wife was consummated Sept. 28, 1861, and their union has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, George E. and May N. They have been given every advantage afforded by the State for a fine education, having attended the elementary schools here and High School at Pawnee, and the State University at Lincoln, and they are now numbered among the most intelligent and progressive instructors of the West. They both have fine musical educations, and both teach that branch in connection with their other duties. The son now holds the position as Principal of the Burchard High School. The Professor began his career as an instructor in a school west of Pawnee, and being very successful there he was offered a school south of Table Rock. From there he went to Long Branch, and from there to become Principal in the Elk school, after which he accepted his present position. Miss May N. Becker is teaching very successfully her ninth term in the home district, besides having taught in other districts. For several years during vacation in the summer months she has successfully taught music, in her own neighborhood and also in the eastern part of the county. Mrs. Becker's maiden name was Carrie McConkey, and she was born in Ohio, July 21, 1845. Her father, John McConkey, was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, and during his residence in that State was married to Margaret Frane, in Guernsey County. She was a native of that county. She was a well-educated lady, and united with the Presbyterian Church at the early age of nine years. Her husband was also a member of the same church. Mr. McConkey was for over twenty years an Elder in that church, and they both remained consistent members during their lives. They spent their last years in Nebraska City, Neb., and are buried there.

John McConkey, his daughter, Mrs. Becker, and her two brothers, in company with other relatives, made the overland trip to California during the

year 1859, and it was there she met Mr. Becker. Mr. McConkey and wife were both upright people, who were respected by their neighbors and friends for their many sterling qualities of head and heart.

Mrs. Becker is entitled to an M. D. after her name, as she has been practicing medicine for eighteen years, and according to the testimony of her neighbors has been very successful, and shows marked skill and tact in her treatment of the various diseases that she has had under her care. She has a recognized standing in the medical profession of Pawnee County, as she has been registered since the law requiring registration by those practicing medicine. She keeps abreast of the times in regard to the best methods of treatment, taking the latest medical journals and having the best books in her library.

In 1870, Mr. Becker, accompanied by his family, left California to make his residence in this State for the future. They lived in Nebraska City for ten months, and then our subject purchased his present farm, comprising 160 acres, and has dwelt here ever since. In improving his land he has been greatly assisted by his wife, a woman of rare energy and ability. She helped him to plant all the beautiful trees and shrubbery that adorn the grounds around the house, and has otherwise aided him in his schemes of improvement. Mr. Becker has put out ten acres of forest trees and a fine orchard, and has hedged the orchard and garden, and a part of his fields. He has plenty of small fruits, besides raising the cereals planted in this part of the West. At first he sold all of his grain to the home market, but as soon as he could he stocked his farm, and now feeds his grain. He keeps hogs of a fine breed, and has a valuable herd of high-grade cattle, having a thoroughbred Short-horn at the head of his herd. Ever since they came here Mrs. Becker has paid especial attention to raising fowls, having an extensive hennery, and has raised from 300 to 500 chickens every year, and a large number of other fowls. When our subject first came here he built a small house, which he replaced in 1888 by his present commodious and handsome residence, which, indeed, in point of architecture, neatness, tasty and convenient arrangements of the interior, is a model farmhouse,

besides being one of the most homelike homes in the community. The house is 26x28 feet in dimensions, of an L shape, with a stone cellar, and is well supplied with all the modern appurtenances for making life comfortable. It is well furnished, and is well supplied with books, music and musical instruments, denoting the educated and refined tastes of the family.

Mr. Becker is a man of marked decision of character, is enlightened in his views, possesses an acute and observing mind, and being a great reader, is well informed on all topics of interest. He has taken part in public life, having until within a few years been an incumbent at different times of the various school offices in his precinct, and thus did much to further the cause of education. He has been solicited to take other civic offices, but has refused to serve in any other capacity. During his residence in California Mr. Becker was active in public life, and he was one of the leaders of the Republican party in that section of the country after its formation, and helped to organize the first Republican Convention at Placerville, El Dorado County, and has been a delegate to various conventions since, remaining to this day a firm supporter of the party. He has always been a strong advocate of temperance, as is also his wife, and during their residence in California were both members of, and workers in the same lodge, even in the early days of his California life, in a whisky time and town, when a free use of intoxicating liquors was the rule rather than the exception; he worked hard to form the Sons of Temperance Club, of which he held the different offices. His wife, son and daughter are likewise strong adherents of the cause of temperance.



**F**RANK H. TAYLOR. The Table Rock *Argus* came under the editorial and proprietary control of Mr. Taylor on the 14th of May, 1887, since which time it has been recognized as among the leading newspapers of Pawnee County. Mr. Taylor is a Western man by birth and breeding, his native place having been Sturgis Prairie, St. Joseph Co., Mich., where he first opened his eyes

to the light Nov. 5, 1858. Five months later his parents returned eastward as far as Williams County, Ohio, where Frank H. sojourned until a young man of twenty-four years.

Mr. Taylor acquired his early education in the common schools of the Buckeye State, and while still a youth began learning the art preservative in the office of the *Bryan Press*. He remained with his first employer two years, then migrated to Morris, Ill., entering the office of Gen. P. C. Hayes, with whom he also remained two years. He then returned to Ohio, and at Delta engaged in the newspaper business as editor and proprietor of the *Delta Avalanche*, which he conducted a year or so, then returned to Bryan, and was with the *Democrat* of that place four years.

During this period of his residence in Ohio our subject was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary A. Thomas, Dec. 31, 1882. Mrs. Taylor was born Aug. 31, 1852, in Delaware County, Ohio. Soon after their marriage they set out for the West, and settled at Clarinda, Iowa, where he sojourned fifteen months. We next find Mr. Taylor as an employe of the *Omaha Republican* in this State, and from there he came to Table Rock in the spring of 1887 and purchased the *Argus*, which under his successful management has become almost indispensable to the people of this region. Mr. Taylor is a man of much natural ability, and being genial and companionable has made hosts of friends. He is straightforward in business transactions, and while doing his duty at the polls, and with his paper in behalf of Republican principles, uniformly avoids the cares and responsibilities of the office-holder. In religious matters he is connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is a faithful laborer in the Sunday-school.

William Taylor, the father of our subject, was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, in 1833, and remained a resident of his native State the greater part of his life, although sojourning for a time both in Michigan and Indiana. The parental family included three children, all of whom are living: William S. is a compositor on the *Argus*; Novilla A., the wife of Samuel Diehl, and living in Bryan, Ohio. The father, who was a farmer by occupation, on the outbreak of the Civil War indicated his patriotism



by enlisting as a Union soldier in Company K. in an Ohio regiment. He proceeded with his comrades to the front, where he was taken ill and sent home to die six weeks later. The bereaved mother was thus left with two young children, the third one having been born ten weeks after its father's death.

The mother of our subject kept her little family together as best she could, and is still living, remaining a widow and making her home at Bryan, Ohio. She was in her girlhood Miss Margaret Lewis, and was born in Northampton County, Pa., Nov. 27, 1835. She removed to Ohio with her parents when quite young. Her father, Nathaniel Lewis, was a contractor and builder, and spent his last days at Bryan, Ohio, dying about 1859.

**A**BRAM SOVEREIGN, who is well known throughout Plum Creek Precinct and vicinity, although only a resident here of about three years' standing, has by his natural abilities and excellent qualities as a man and a citizen, established himself in a prominent position among the leading men of his community. He is the owner of a valuable tract of land, finely located on section 1, upon which he is effecting all the modern improvements calculated to make it one of the most desirable country homes in the county. In these worthy efforts he is assisted by his estimable wife, a lady of more than ordinary worth and intelligence, and who is his uniform helper and encourager in all his worthy ambitions and enterprises. Few homes are more pleasant or desirable, it being a place where both friend and stranger are welcomed with that cordial hospitality ever indicative of birth and breeding.

Our subject received his first impressions of life in the picturesque regions of the Province of Ontario, Canada, having been born near the city of Hamilton, April 20, 1820. His father, John Sovereign, was a native of Essex County, N. J., and married Miss Julia Lefler, who, like her son, was a native of the Dominion and also born in Ontario. The paternal grandfather, David Sovereign, was born and reared in New Jersey, whence he removed

to Canada about 1798, being one of the first settlers of the Province of Ontario, where he occupied himself in farming and spent his last days there. The great-grandfather of our subject was of German birth and ancestry, and upon coming to the United States located in New Jersey. The Leflers were also of German origin, and the maternal grandfather of our subject prosecuted farming in the Dominion the greater part of his life.

John Sovereign, the father of our subject, was a lad ten years of age when his parents removed from New Jersey to Canada, and he assisted in driving a herd of cattle from the old to the new home. A 200-acre farm was cleared from the wilderness and the Sovereigns became well-to-do, operating a saw-mill in connection with agriculture, and surrounding themselves with all the comforts of life. When about twenty years of age John Sovereign served as a soldier in the War of 1812 in the British Army. Adjacent to the old home there grew up the town of Waterford, and there he looked his last upon the scenes of earth, passing away in 1876, when over eighty years of age. The mother of our subject died when only forty years old, in 1840. The parental family included ten children, namely: Isaac, who died when about seventeen years old; Phebe, Mary; Abraham, our subject; Louis; William, who died at the age of thirty-five; Rufus, Frederick, Marion and Israel. Eight of these are now living, making their homes in the United States and Canada.

Reared upon a farm, our subject grew up strong of muscle, healthy and active, and imbued with the principles which have formed the basis of a character of more than ordinary worth. His assistance was required in the building up of the homestead, and he was thus deprived of extended school advantages. When a youth of seventeen he left home and made his way to the vicinity of LaPorte, Ind., where he commenced farming for himself on rented land. Later he drifted into stock-raising, was successful, and became the owner of 130 acres, which he improved and continued to live upon until 1860. Then selling out he removed to the vicinity of Independence in Buchanan County, Iowa, where he purchased an improved farm of 200 acres. This he sold in the fall of 1864, and invested a portion of



the proceeds in a flouring-mill in Clinton Township, LaPorte County. The year following he was married there, but in the spring of the year 1865 sold this property also and made his arrangements to take up his abode in Grant Township, Caldwell Co., Mo. Here he purchased land to the amount of 500 acres, the greater part of which he cleared, brought the soil to a good state of cultivation, and engaged largely in stock-raising. At the same time he effected modern improvements, putting up buildings and setting out fruit trees. He was not, however, yet satisfied with his surroundings, and accordingly in the spring of 1886 left Missouri and came to this county, having purchased his present farm of 320 acres the year before. Upon this also he has effected mainly all the improvements which have made it valuable. He has fenced and cross-fenced, turned every rod of the soil with the plowshare, and that which is not devoted to pasturage yields in abundance the other rich products of Nebraska. He has an orchard of 100 trees and the various other accessories of the well-regulated country homestead. Stock-raising forms a prominent feature of his operations, blooded Short-horn cattle, Clydesdale horses and Poland-China swine being his favorite breeds. In this industry he excels, and often carries off the blue ribbons at the county fairs.

The 29th of March, 1865, witnessed the marriage of our subject with Mrs. Eunice (Taber) Pitcher, widow of Alonzo Pitcher, by whom she had become the mother of one child, a son, Elry C., who is now in Breckenridge, Mo. Mrs. Sovereign was born at West Creek, Lake Co., Ind., Nov. 9, 1842, and removed afterward with her sister to Westville, where her marriage with our subject took place. Of this union there have been born seven children, namely: Schuyler C., Grant, Nettie, Leonard, Nellie, Myrtle and Fred. They are all at home with their parents.

The parents of Mrs. Sovereign were William D. and Eunice (Main) Taber, natives of New York State, and of English and Scotch descent. After marriage they settled in Pennsylvania, but not long afterward emigrated to Lake County, Ind., during the period of its early settlement. The mother died there in 1849, but the father remained with his

children until the outbreak of the Civil War. During the first year of the conflict he enlisted in an Indiana regiment as the attache of a wagon train, and died at Bardstown, Ky., in 1862. Both parents were members of the Christian Church. Their family included eight children, namely: Harriet, Dolly, William, Harvey, Hiram and Charlotte, the latter four deceased; Eunice and Sarah. The survivors are residents of Indiana and Kansas.

Mr. Sovereign, politically, is a Republican "dyed in the wool," and maintains his principles with all the natural strength of his character. He has served on the Grand and Petit Juries, officiated as Road Supervisor, is a member of the School Board of his district, and socially, belongs to the Masonic fraternity, Kingston Lodge No. 118, in Missouri. His estimable wife is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAM GRAVES LYMAN. The man who pushed his way across the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers into Nebraska twenty years ago or more, courageous enough to experiment upon an uncultivated soil, risking his means, if he had any, and the best years of his life, cannot be given too much honor. To such spirits as these is Nebraska of to-day indebted for her standing as one of the most important commonwealths west of the Father of Waters. She first welcomed to her soil the subject of this sketch on the 8th of March, 1867, he settling upon the land which he still owns and occupies, and where he has since lived.

As the owner now of 320 broad acres, it is hardly necessary to state that the subject of this sketch, who began life for himself with but limited capital, spent during the earlier years of his residence here few idle hours. That his perseverance and industry have resulted in the accumulation of a fine property is no more than he deserves. He purchased at first 160 acres, for which he paid the sum of \$120. Upon this he turned the first furrow, and for the few years succeeding labored early and late in the opening up of a farm and bringing his land to a state of cultivation. He planted fruit and

shade trees, and in due time added the other structures and embellishments which increased the value of his property, while his land in due time yielded bounteously, so that from the proceeds he was enabled to make further purchases.

Mr. Lyman sheltered himself in a dug-out the first few months of his residence here, and then put up a log house, which served as a dwelling until 1881. That year he completed his present residence, a large and commodious frame structure of imposing appearance and architectural beauty, which would grace a village or a town. He has availed himself of modern methods of agriculture, by the purchase of improved machinery, including a windmill, which conveys water to every point required, and which is not only a matter of convenience, but the object of general admiration. Adjacent to the farm buildings is a fine apple orchard, and there is an abundance of smaller fruit trees. The land is largely enclosed with hedge fencing, and the residence grounds are embellished with evergreens and shrubbery. Mr. Lyman of late years has devoted his attention largely to stock-raising, and feeds to cattle and swine most of the grain raised on the farm. He began operations in this county when a youth of nineteen years, and with a capital of \$800. He has been fortunate in his investments, and able, like the man in the Scriptures, to increase his talent fourfold.

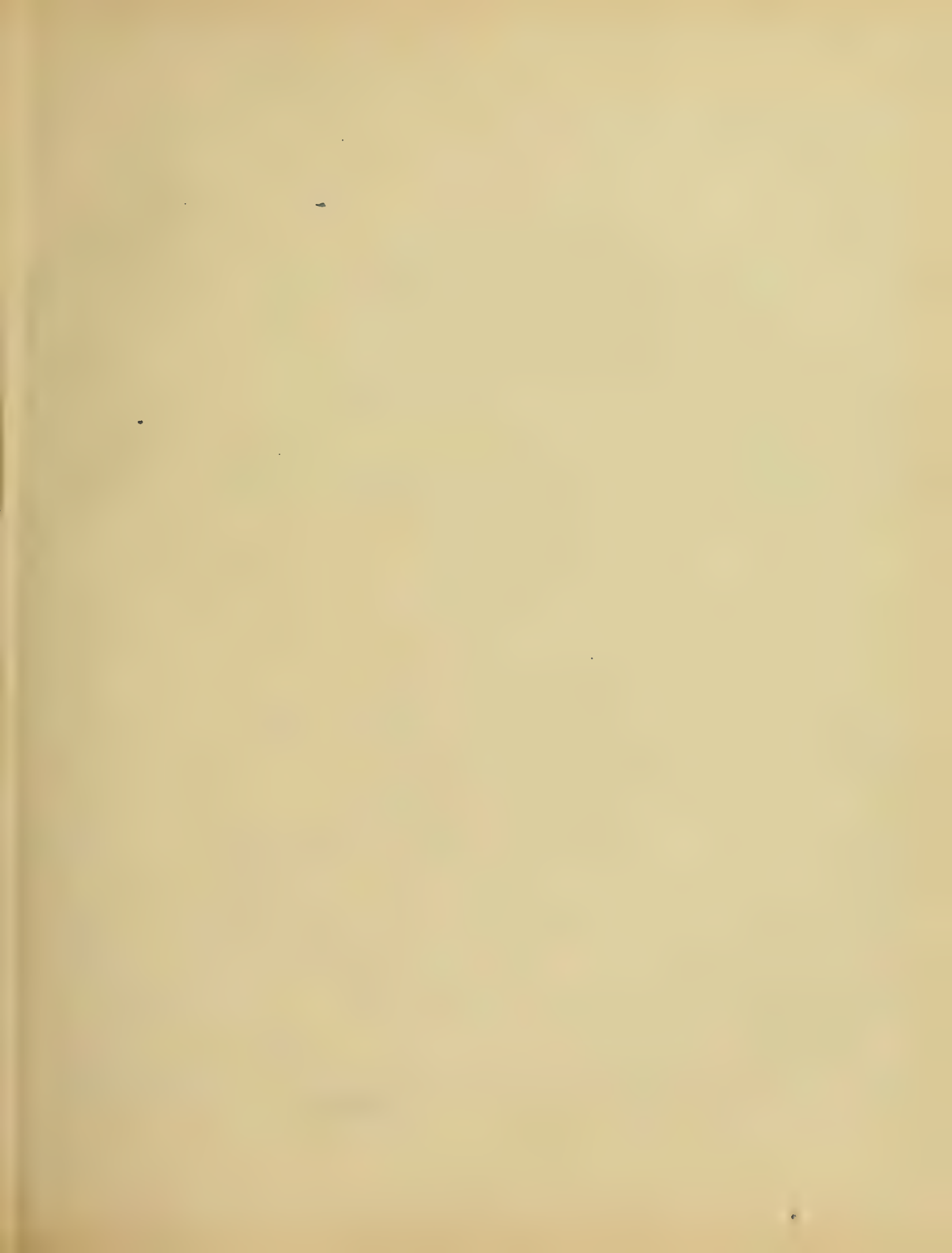
The native place of our subject was Stephenson County, Ill., where his birth took place Dec. 12, 1847. He did not live there long enough, however, to retain any recollections of the place, his parents a few months later going to Joe Daviess County. There young Lyman lived until approaching man's estate, receiving a good practical education in the common school, and becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits. He migrated alone to Nebraska, settling in Table Rock Precinct before the formation of the school districts. A man of more than ordinary intelligence, he was soon selected as the proper incumbent of the local offices, and was selected as a member of the School Board, Road Supervisor, and to other positions of trust and responsibility. Aside from these simple duties, he has avoided official preferment and political affairs, although interested in the success of the Republican

party, and giving his vote uniformly in favor of its principles.

On the 5th of July, 1869, occurred one of the most important events in the life of Mr. Lyman, namely, his marriage with Miss Sophie L. Allen. This lady was born in Green County, Ky., March 29, 1849, and when a child of four years was taken by her parents to Sangamon County, Ill., where they sojourned until 1865. The family then came to Nebraska Territory, and the father secured a tract of land in Table Rock Precinct, which is now the property of Mr. O. D. Howe. She lived with her parents until her marriage. Her father, Alexander Allen, a native of Kentucky, in early manhood married Miss Mary E. Barrett, by whom he became the father of eight children. Of these seven are now living. Mr. Allen was a lifelong farmer. After sojourning a few years in Nebraska he changed his residence to Russell County, Kan., where his accidental death took place, his lifeless body having been found by the roadside, where it was evident he had been thrown from his buggy. The wife and mother had passed away some years prior to the death of her husband. Mr. Allen was a well-educated man, and had taught school considerably during his younger years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Lyman there have been born three children—Edwin, Rufus A. and Addie S. They are all living at home with their parents, the oldest being a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the youngest son belonging to the Presbyterian Church. Of this latter Mrs. Lyman is also a member, while our subject belongs to the Methodist. The Lyman family is an emanation of New England, William G. Lyman, Sr., the father of our subject, having been born in Southampton, Mass., June 8, 1812. He lived there until a young man twenty-two years old, then removed to Ohio, and thereafter spent considerable time traveling over different States, finally visiting Oregon. His last days were spent in Grant County, Ore., where his death took place Nov. 17, 1887.

Mrs. Amity (Shaw) Lyman, the mother of our subject, was the sister of the well-known J. W. Shaw, of Table Rock Precinct, a history of whose family will be found in a sketch of the latter on another page of this work. To William G., Sr.,







RESIDENCE OF C. F. FRANK. SEC. 1. TABLE ROCK PRECINCT.



NEMAH EAGLE MILLS AND RESIDENCE OF LUTHY BROS, SEC. 12. SHERIDAN PRECINCT.

and Amity Lyman there were born three children, and the mother died when a young woman, in Wisconsin, at the age of twenty-seven years. She was the second wife of Mr. Lyman, and he was twice married after her decease. He was the father of thirteen children and a lifelong farmer. The paternal grandfather of our subject was Rufus Lyman, also a native of Southampton, Mass. He spent his last days in Massachusetts.



**S**IMON LUTHY, joint proprietor with his brother John of Luthy's "Nemaha Eagle Mills," Sheridan Precinct, is a progressive, public-spirited citizen, and as the head of one of the leading industries of this part of Pawnee County we are pleased to be able to represent him in this volume. He was born Jan. 12, 1845, in the city of Berne, Switzerland. His father, Christian Luthy, was likewise a native of that independent little Republic, and was born amid its beautiful scenes on Christmas Day in the year 1790. He learned the carpenter's trade when young, and became a contractor and builder, carrying on his business in Berne, the capital city of his native land. He married Miss Magdalena Fankhauser, and to them came eight children, five sons and three daughters, all of whom lived, and five of whom came to America. The father died Oct. 12, 1862, and the mother, coming to this country, made her home with our subject until her death, May 23, 1877.

Our subject was the youngest of the family, and he was carefully trained by wise and tender parents in all things that go to make a manly, useful, upright life. He lived in the land of his nativity until he was twenty-four years of age, and in the meantime learned the trade of millwright, acquiring a thorough practical knowledge of it in all its details. March 15, 1869, he left his old home and friends to try life in a new country, landing on these shores April 12. He immediately made his way to this State, and in Spicer Precinct, Richardson County, purchased a tract of land from its original owner, and entered upon its improvement. He set out trees and an orchard, built necessary out

buildings, stables, corn-cribs, etc., besides bringing the land to an admirable state of tillage. He lived on that farm until 1878, when he came to this place, and with his brother John, and Fred Fankhauser, erected the first mill ever built in this part of Pawnee County. In the beginning it was run as a saw-mill, and afterward as a flouring-mill, and had a capacity of fifty barrels a day, with a plentiful supply of water from the Nemaha. Our subject being a practical miller, is at the head of the business, which is now exclusively in the hands of himself and brother John and Fred Fankhauser, and has the entire management of it, overseeing all the work, and also has a miller under him. They buy their wheat directly from the farmers, thus making a good market for them. They formerly purchased about 20,000 bushels annually, and now as much or more; also grinding rye, corn, oats, etc., as well as wheat. They have enlarged the capacity of their mill, and four years ago put in the machinery for the modern roller process, besides introducing all of the most approved latest improvements for cleaning the wheat, brushing it, and for other purposes, so that their mill is conceded to be one of the best fitted up of its class to be found in the county. They manufacture the celebrated O. K. roller process flour, acknowledged to be one of the best brands on the market, and it is shipped to the various towns, far and near, it having a reputation that will sell all they can manufacture. Mr. Luthy owns other property besides his share in the mill, he having an interest in the farm first bought by himself and brother, it now comprising 240 acres of land under good improvement, well stocked, and in fine shape.

October 6, 1887, our subject and Miss Magdalena Lionberger were united in marriage, and of their pleasant wedded life one child has been born, Simon, Jr. Mrs. Luthy was born in Switzerland, in May, 1866, a daughter of Peter L. and Elizabeth Lionberger. She came to America in 1884, her father coming two years later, and she lived in Richardson County until her marriage.

Mr. Luthy has obtained an enviable financial and business success by legitimate methods, and his credit is of the highest order with all with whom he has dealings. His rectitude of purpose and integrity in act are well-known characteristics. He is a promi-



nent factor in everything pertaining to the present and future welfare of his community, and uses his influence and means to promote all beneficial schemes for its advancement. Religiously, he is a member of the Evangelical Church. Politically, he usually votes with the Democrats, although he is by no means bound by party ties, but always supports the best man. On another page of this volume will be found a view of the Eagle Mills of our subject and his partners, and also his residence.



**J**OHN LUTHY. As a genuine representative of the pioneer element of Nebraska, the subject of this record is deserving of more than a passing mention. He represents a good farm property on section 12, Sheridan Precinct, this comprising 240 acres, thoroughly improved and supplied with substantial buildings. Mr. L. came to Nebraska in July, 1867, and three years later purchased a partially improved farm in company with his brother, and there he lived until changing his home to this county in the fall of 1878, when he moved to his present residence. He is also a blacksmith by trade, and assisted in putting in the Eagle Mills, which have obtained an enviable reputation for the excellence of their product, and receive the patronage of the best residents of this section. Of this mill Mr. L. is now part owner, and, as may be supposed, from this source and his farming interests enjoys a comfortable income.

Our subject was born in the city of Berne, Switzerland, May 31, 1840, and lived there until a man of twenty-seven years. Upon emigrating to America he came directly to Nebraska, and for a time employed himself as a blacksmith. He was married in Richardson County, Neb., June 22, 1877, to Miss Rosanna Fankhauser. They are the parents of five children, only three of whom are living, namely: John, Minnie and Sophia. Mrs. Luthy is also a native of Switzerland, and was born in the canton of Berne, May 16, 1845. She came to the United States with her parents when quite young, they settling in Fulton County, Ohio, where her father car-

ried on farming, and where both parents spent the remainder of their days.

Our subject upon becoming a naturalized citizen identified himself with the Democratic party, and in religious matters is connected with the Evangelical Church. He is a thorough and skillful farmer, and as a man and citizen has made for himself an excellent reputation among his fellow-townsmen, being highly spoken of, and one whose word is considered as good as his bond. He has labored early and late in the building up of his homestead, and has in this manner contributed to the general prosperity of Sheridan Precinct.

The mill and other property of our subject is shown on another page.



**C**HRISTIAN F. FRANK. Too much praise cannot be accorded the early pioneers of this county, who, with their strong hands and courageous hearts, mainly their only capital, pushed their way toward the frontier, and were willing to risk years of labor in the development of a portion of the Great West. The Frank family were among the first of these, and have left their impress most decidedly in Pawnee County. The subject of this sketch settled in Table Rock Precinct, upon a tract of raw prairie, where he continued to remain through every discouragement and drawback, and is now numbered among the moneyed men and land-holders of this section. His estate embraces 480 acres, 240 acres of which are in Richardson County. He has a comfortable home on section 1, Table Rock Precinct, which, with its buildings and appurtenances, forms one of the most attractive resorts within its borders.

It was over thirty-one years ago that Mr. Frank first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska, in September, 1857. A short time afterward he located upon eighty acres of land when there was scarcely a white man within sight, but Indians were plentiful, roaming over the country, intent frequently on mischief. Wild game was plentiful, and his house was the



nearest to Blacklaw's Mill, eight miles away on the Nemaha River. The loneliness of the outlook can better be imagined than described, but the men who thus came to this far-away region were made of that stuff which seldom admitted of any such word as fail, and Mr. Frank has been no exception to this rule. He commenced the improvement of his land, living in the most economical manner, and laboring several seasons, before he could discover much change in his circumstances.

In due time, however, the soil began to respond to the labors of the agriculturist, and our subject reaped encouragement from the outlook. Here and there other adventurous emigrants were settling around him, and in due time it became necessary to provide for the education of the children. Mr. Frank assisted in the organization of the first school district in the precinct, and also in the erection of the building. This process was gone through with several times as the districts were reduced in territory, in order to make room for more buildings. He contributed quite a sum of money in order to have a school-house in the neighborhood of his own farm, so that his children could reap the benefits thereof.

As may be readily guessed, the enterprise of Mr. Frank received due recognition from his neighbors, and he was at an early date selected to positions of trust and responsibility. He was one of the first Directors in his school district, in which position he has served continuously since. Otherwise he has avoided becoming an office-holder, but is a stanch Republican, politically, and never fails to perform his duty as a voter. He has been a capable business man, a thorough and skillful farmer, and one whose integrity is unimpeachable. When we reflect upon the fact that he came to this county with a capital of only \$10 in his pocket, and a family upon his hands, and that he is now one of the wealthy and prominent men of this region, it cannot be denied that he has done well. He was, as it may be supposed, obliged to run into debt for his first land, but with phenomenal perseverance he labored from year to year, and furnishes one of the finest illustrations of a self-made man, and one who is essentially the architect of his own fortune. The family lived in a log house for a number of

years until Mr. Frank could build a more permanent structure. The present residence was completed in 1868, and the fact that it still remains in a good state of preservation, after a lapse of twenty years, is indicative of its solidity of architecture. Later he put up a good barn, corn cribs and sheds, planted forest and fruit trees, and has everything about the premises for the well-being and comfort of his family. In time he branched off into stock-raising, reaping from this industry ample returns. He thus labored early and late a period of twenty years, but in the fall of 1888 sold off his stock, rented his farm, and is now living wisely retired from active labor. He has been for many years an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, contributing liberally toward its support. Both in social and business circles he is welcomed as a representative man of his county, one who has been no unimportant factor in raising it to its present condition of prosperity.

The reader will not be surprised to learn that this representative of thrift and prudence is of stanch German ancestry, and was himself born in the Province of Pomerania, Prussia, Feb. 24, 1824. He lived in his native country until a man thirty-five years of age, and upon coming to America settled first in Jefferson County, Wis. A year and a half later he came to Nebraska, in company with William and Gottfried Burow, his brothers-in-law; a sketch of the latter appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. Frank was married in his native Province to Miss Johanna Louise Burow, Oct. 11, 1846, and they became the parents of ten children, of whom the following are living: Their eldest son, August Frank, married Miss Mary Beckman, and is a resident of Humboldt, where he is engaged in general merchandising; William F. married Miss Hester Smith, and is farming in Richardson County; Johanna married William Friday, who is a well-to-do farmer of Table Rock Precinct; Wilhelmina married Henry Schmeltzel, and they have one son, Walter Edwin. Augusta, Carl Henry and Wilhelmina are at home with their father.

Mrs. Johanna Louise Frank was born in the Province of Pomerania, Prussia, Jan. 12, 1823, and departed this life at the homestead in Table Rock Precinct, April 2, 1886. She was a kind mother, a

devoted wife, a generous neighbor, and in her death her family not only sustained an irreparable loss, but she was mourned by all who knew her.

A fine lithographic view of the handsome home of Mr. Frank is shown elsewhere in this work.



**E**DWARD A. HANSEN, one of the pioneer settlers of Sheridan Precinct, is now one of its most intelligent, progressive and successful farmers and stock-raisers. He has a comfortable, well-appointed home on section 3, and his farm of 240 acres on sections 2, 3 and 11, neatly hedged and fenced, with its carefully tilled, highly productive soil, substantial buildings, and all the needed appliances for carrying on agriculture, is one of the most desirable estates in this locality. Mr. Hansen has accumulated his property since coming to Nebraska twenty-eight years ago, as at that time his finances were at a very low mark, and that he is now in good circumstances he owes solely to his capacity for labor, his sound judgment, and an indomitable will that enabled him to surmount all obstacles that usually beset the path of the pioneer.

Our subject was born near Gothenburg, Sweden, June 26, 1831, being one of a family of seven children, two of whom are now in America, one having returned to his native land. His father was Hans Anderson. (In Sweden the children take their surname from their father's given name, hence his father's name was Hans Anderson.) Hans Anderson and his wife were lifelong residents of that country, dying there in the prime of life, the father in 1840 and the mother the year following. Thus at the tender age of ten years our subject was deprived of the care of his natural guardians. He managed to acquire a good education, and at the age of nineteen, in the year 1850, shipped on board the sailing-vessel "Paranenus" as ship carpenter, which was quite a profitable position. When about half way across the Atlantic a terrible storm was encountered and the ship was wrecked, apparently on purpose, as the master crowded on all the sails when other ships had theirs close reefed. The ship went to pieces and went down.

and our subject was saved by an American ship. That bitter experience gave our subject a distaste for a seafaring life, and after he had landed on these shores he concluded to try life in this country. He had been in New York but one day when he met a man who asked him if he would like to live on a farm. His companion acted as interpreter, and through him he made arrangements to accompany the stranger to his home in Columbia County, N. Y., where he was treated with great kindness and consideration, but for more than a year the family knew not his story or whence he came. He had not been there more than a year before his ability and trustworthiness gained him the full confidence of his employer, who made him a sort of an overseer of the farm, giving him full charge of the affairs, he hiring the hands, paying them off, etc. Wishing to gain a better knowledge of the English language and to improve his education, he attended school in the winter, at the same time working for \$12 a month. He peddled milk for three years, from six to twelve cows, at Chatham's Corners. He subsequently left New York for Wisconsin, where he turned his attention to farming on his own account, and bought a tract of eighty acres of land. He worked steadily to improve a farm, but at the end of three years sought to improve his finances in Missouri. He lived there a year and a half, and then he and his brother-in-law, Jacob Benjamin, came here in 1861, driving all the way from Clinton County, Mo., being on the road ten days, and arriving here on the 24th day of October. Mr. Hansen had but very little money, and after buying and partly paying for a partly improved farm, eighteen acres of which were broken, paying a \$200 mortgage and \$25 for the crops, he had but fifty cents to his name. He had a good knowledge of carpentering and wagon-making, and he put it to good use to earn money to finish his payments. He lived in Table Rock for one year, and then began to make needed improvements on his farm. He set out a good orchard that has been in bearing for several years, and broke more of his land and put it under cultivation, but in 1866 the grasshoppers made a raid with disastrous results. Notwithstanding this calamity he persevered with good courage, and from



time to time has been able to increase the acreage of his farm by further purchases, and has added to his stock until he has a fine farm and a good lot of graded stock.

Mr. Hansen has had the encouragement and assistance of a good and capable wife, to whom he was united in marriage in Clinton County, Mo., Sept. 2, 1860. The following is recorded of the seven children who have blessed their union: Albert F. was born Dec. 5, 1861; Ada R., July 11, 1863; Willard, Dec. 19, 1864; Anna Belle, Sept. 24, 1866; Alfred, Aug. 25, 1868; Calvin, June 1, 1872; Lawrence, Aug. 23, 1876. Albert was married Oct. 26, 1882; Anna was married Jan. 29, 1885, to L. Fellers, of this precinct; they have one little girl, Nellie L., and lost a little girl Dec. 23, 1888. Ada married Osmond Fellers, of Pawnee Precinct.

Mrs. Hansen's maiden name was Abi Bloom, and she was born in Clinton County, Ohio, July 11, 1843. Her father, John Bloom, was a native of New Jersey, and was born in 1809. He went to Ohio in early manhood, and there married Miss Rebecca Downing. She was born in Kentucky in 1810, and when three years of age her parents took her to Ohio, of which they thus became early settlers, and Mr. Downing cut out a farm for himself from the timber. Mr. Bloom was a farmer, and when his daughter Mrs. Hansen was but six weeks old he moved from Ohio to Allegan County, Mich., to what is now Plainwell, and there spent the remaining years of his life, dying in 1852. When Mrs. Hansen was fourteen years old her mother moved from Michigan with her family to Missouri; she subsequently came to Nebraska, and makes her home with Mrs. Hansen. To her and her husband were born nine children, seven of whom lived to maturity. Mrs. Hansen's grandfather, William Bloom, was one of the founders of the State of Ohio, having moved there at an early date, and he there spent the remainder of his life. He reared a family of eight children.

Mr. Hansen has done much to advance the development of Pawnee County, and of this part of it in particular, which he found in a very wild condition when he first set foot upon these prairies. There were no roads or bridges, and he aided in

building them. He helped to build the first bridge that was ever built across the Nemaha in this vicinity; it was of pine lumber, which was drawn from Brownville. Mr. Hansen helped to organize this school district, No. 32, and held the office of first Moderator in it, and has been Director of the school for six years, and has held some office on the Board of Education for several years. He helped to hire the first teacher, there being quite a number of scholars here at the time, and a log school-house was erected two and one-half miles south of here so as to accommodate the greatest number of children possible. Mr. Hansen heartily supports the policy of the Republican party by voice and vote, although he avoids politics as a general thing. While in his native Sweden he belonged to the Lutheran Church, but since coming to this country has identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his family are also members. He has made for himself an enduring reputation among his fellowmen as one whose every transaction is in strict accordance with honor and honesty, and he is invaluable as a citizen, doing all in his power to promote the highest interests of this community. He and his family are well-informed people, being fond of good reading, and their home is rendered pleasant and attractive by the true courtesy and geniality of its inmates.



**NIMROD AND JOHN E. KEISER.** The father and son herewith written of are gentleman about equally well known throughout Table Rock Precinct, the elder being a man of much influence and force of character, and the younger, of fine natural abilities, which are being developed through his sensible process of noting what is going on around him in the world, and making the most of his opportunities for acquiring useful information. They live together at a snug homestead on section 13, in Table Rock Precinct, the estate comprising 240 acres of finely cultivated land with modern improvements.

Nimrod Keiser was one of the earliest settlers of this county, coming to this region during the fall of 1865. He located on the Little Muddy, but the



summer following removed to the land which he now owns and occupies, and which, it is hardly necessary to say, bore a wide contrast to its present condition. The land was then entirely new and uncultivated. Mr. K., in the spring of 1866, purchased 160 acres, including thirty-five acres of timber, paying therefor \$700. He himself turned the first furrow, taking possession of the place in the spring of 1866. He rented a cabin for two winters, and during that time put up a dwelling on his own land, drawing his lumber laboriously from Hillsdale, on the Missouri River, and making the trip in two days. Pine lumber was worth \$40 per 1,000. The nearest market was Brownville, and to that point Mr. Keiser hauled his grain and other produce. Later he visited Aspinwall and Peru on the same errand.

The new farm of Mr. Keiser was for the first few years devoted to grain, but later he commenced stock-raising. It was by no means all smooth sailing, as the grasshoppers destroyed the crops of two seasons, and he then had to haul provender from Brownville for his stock. He has found live stock to be about the most profitable of industries, and still follows it, feeding the most of his corn to his cattle and swine. The farm, neatly enclosed with hedge fencing, well trimmed, presents a beautiful appearance. Our subject has availed himself of improved machinery, including a fine wind-mill, by which means water is conveyed to any part desired. Each year adds something to the beauty and value of the property.

Mr. Keiser arrived in Table Rock Precinct in time to assist in the organization of the first school district, in 1879, and he was the first Treasurer. He was one of the movers in this scheme, it being first agitated during a neighborly visit by himself and a neighbor, Mr. Hays, who is written of elsewhere in this work. The first school was conducted in an old cottonwood shanty, the teacher being a Miss Julia Ferguson. Prior to this, however, the children of our subject were sent to the Cooper School, over in Richardson County, for which privilege payment had to be made.

Mr. Keiser has been a member of the School Board in his precinct since that time, and has filled other positions of trust and responsibility among

his neighbors, although he is no office-seeker, and aside from serving his own immediate community has carefully avoided the responsibilities of public life. He was not quite old enough to vote for William H. Harrison, but sixteen years later identified himself with the Republican party, of which he has since been a member. He has also been identified with the Grange movement. He and his estimable wife are both members in good standing of the Christian Church. No man has taken a warmer interest in the growth and development of Pawnee County, and Nebraska generally. He was one of the prime movers in forming the petition to open four miles of the road now passing by his farm to the Nemaha, and which is one of the most popular highways of the county.

Nimrod Keiser was born in Greene County, Pa., March 24, 1824, and lived there until a young man twenty-three years old. He then started out on his first expedition of importance, accompanying the Long Brothers from Ohio to Philadelphia and New York City, assisting them in driving cattle. He remained with these gentlemen seven years, then visited Illinois as a cattle dealer, and was so well pleased with the outlook in the Prairie State that he finally settled down in Morgan County, and followed the trade of carpenter, which he had learned in his native State. Later, however, he returned to the cattle business as the employe of Jacob Strawn, having the charge of a very large herd for a period of three years. At the expiration of this time he was married, and followed his trade until coming to Nebraska.

The marriage of Nimrod Keiser and Miss Mary E. Martin was celebrated at the bride's home in Morgan County, Ill., April 14, 1857. This union resulted in the birth of ten children, five of whom are living, namely: Preston, Isabelle, Melinda J., John E. and Olive Ann. Two only are at home with their parents—John E. and Olive A. They were all given a good practical education, and reflect honor upon their parental training. Preston married Miss Alice Davis, is a resident of Richardson County, and the father of one child, Ernest E.; Isabelle is the wife of Theo. Hall, of Table Rock Precinct, and the mother of one child, a son, Roy; Melinda J. married Hardin W. Hays, who is

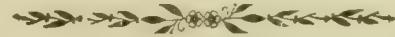
farming on land south of the Keiser homestead.

The Keiser family is highly spoken of by the residents of Table Rock Precinct, and this is sufficient indication of their standing. The son, John E., has been Road Supervisor of his precinct for the last year, and has given good satisfaction. He is liberal and public-spirited, and is bound to make his mark in the world. He was born in Pawnee County, Table Rock Precinct, April 1, 1866, and took kindly to his books at school, acquiring a practical education, while his habit of reading and thought will suffice to make him generally well informed upon passing events of interest to every intelligent citizen. The family live in excellent style, being provided with all the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mrs. Mary E. (Martin) Keiser was born in Jessamine County, Ky., Jan. 22, 1833, and removed with her parents when a small child to Morgan County, Ill. Her father, Preston Martin, was a native of Virginia, born about 1808. He left the Old Dominion when a young man, taking up his abode in the Blue Grass regions, and was married to Miss Elizabeth Burks. They became the parents of nine children, three of whom died when young. Six are still living. The family removed to Morgan County, Ill., about 1840, and were residents of Illinois a period of twenty-four years, coming thence to Nebraska. The father took up a tract of land, in 1864, on the Little Muddy, in Richardson County, and lived there until the death of his wife, in April, 1879. Two years later he sold out, and thereafter made his home with his children until his death, Dec. 9, 1887. He was a good man in the broadest sense of the term, conscientious in the performance of every duty, and respected by his neighbors.

The father of Nimrod Keiser was John Keiser, a native of Pennsylvania, and born in 1798. He was a millwright by trade, and spent his entire life in his native State, traveling nearly all over it in the pursuance of his trade. He married Miss Hannah Brown, and they became the parents of two children, Nimrod and John, Jr. His first wife died, and he was then married to a Miss Dillener. He finally removed to Fayette County, Pa., where he spent his last days, his death occurring about 1865. When

Mr. Keiser came to this section none of the uplands were improved, only a small spot here and there along the streams. Deer, wild game of all kinds, and wolves were plentiful. In assisting to subdue a portion of the primitive soil, and in the construction of one of the best homesteads in this county, Mr. Keiser has contributed his full quota to its development and prosperity. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**H**ENRY FREEMAN, Justice of the Peace, insurance, real-estate agent and conveyancer, office corner of Luzerne and Huston streets, is one of the foremost citizens of Table Rock, and to his enterprise and business ability is the city greatly indebted for its present prosperous and flourishing condition. He was one of the early settlers of Pawnee County, and for some years was an active factor in developing its vast agricultural resources.

Mr. Freeman was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., Jan. 17, 1817. His father, Adam Freeman, was born in Lancaster County, that State, about 1782, and spent the whole of his life in his native State, dying in 1846, at the age of sixty-four years. His wife, whose maiden name was Matilda McQuillen, and to whom he was united in marriage in 1816, died in 1867, aged sixty-nine. During the latter part of his life he was a farmer. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church, were highly respected Christian people, and both died in the triumph of their living faith.

Our subject was one of a family of ten children reared by his parents, and he remained an inmate of the parental household until he was twenty-one years of age, when he began an independent life for himself. He took up his residence in Center County, Pa., and there married Miss Eleanor Chaney. She was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., Sept. 5, 1821, and her father, Gilbert Chaney, was also a native of that county. The latter was a farmer and a blacksmith, and always resided in his native State. He and his wife reared a family of six children. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Freeman has been blessed to them by the birth of ten children, eight of whom



are living, all of whom but Harry, the youngest, are married and settled in life, and our subject and his wife rejoice in being the grandpa and grandma of twenty-four grandchildren. The following is recorded of their children: Jane E. married A. J. Sweitzer, of Clarion County, Pa., and they have eight children living; John Wesley, now of Grand Island, Neb., married Miss Maggie Hasok, of Clarion County, Pa., and they have five children; Nancy married Charles Murphy, of Grand Island, Neb., and they have three children; Sarah married Jacob Leaman, a farmer of Pawnee County, and they have five children; Gilbert married Miss Frankie Tate, of this county; Rachel married A. E. Lane, of Pawnee County, and they have two children; William H., a resident of this town, married Eva Fellers, and they have one child.

Mr. Freeman first engaged in iron ore mining after starting in life for himself, and was superintendent of a mine for three years after marriage. At the expiration of that time he moved to Clarion County, Pa., and was engaged in the public works for some time. He then decided to try his fortunes in the young State of Nebraska, and, accompanied by his family, he embarked on a boat at Pittsburgh, Pa., and came as far as Nemaha City by water. He there bought an ox-team and drove to his destination in Table Rock Precinct, arriving here May 2, 1868. He immediately took up a homestead on section 10, comprising 120 acres. When he came there were very few people living here, not more than fifty men in the entire precinct, and the mail came through here twice a week from Brownville to Beatrice. The name of the township was derived from a large rock on the Nemaha, still to be seen on the farm of John Blacklaw, said rock or boulder standing about ten feet high, and on this foundation is a perfectly flat, nearly circular stone, ten feet in diameter, resting on three legs, each four feet in height.

Mr. Freeman's land was wild prairie, with not a tree growing on it and not a furrow turned. He put up a tent in which his family found shelter for four months, and he then built a dug-out, which was warm and comfortable, and in that they lived until Mr. Freeman erected a substantial house, drawing the lumber therefor with an ox-team from Rulo.

In the meantime he improved his farm, breaking thirty acres of it the first year, fenced the farm and introduced stock-raising. When he sold that place he had a good forest, orchard, and plenty of small fruits, with many other valuable improvements. He lived on that farm until 1873, then rented another farm and went into farming and stock-raising more extensively. In 1877 he sold out and moved into Table Rock, having previously finished and furnished a cozy home, and established himself in his present business, which he is conducting very successfully.

Since becoming a resident of the city Mr. Freeman has been closely identified with the civic government, has been City Clerk for four or five years, Trustee for one year, and has held the office of Justice of the Peace for eight years. He and his estimable wife are connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are ever active in its good works. Mr. Freeman has always displayed commendable public spirit, and has used his influence to promote the various schemes to advance the welfare of the city. He was largely instrumental in securing the passage of the railway through here, and in many other ways has contributed to increase the prosperity of the city. He is a man of large heart and generous mind, and all of his fellow-citizens unite in testifying to his genuine worth of character. In politics he is a staunch Republican.



**JOHN C. ATKINSON.** The sturdy English farmer has not been behind the other nationalities in discovering the resources of the great State of Nebraska, and the gentleman to whose record we thus call attention is one of the most worthy representatives of his countrymen. A native of Yorkshire, he was born July 27, 1834, and was the fifth in a family of eight children, five sons and three daughters, the offspring of Richard and Mary (Nelson) Atkinson, who were born respectively in 1803 and 1801, and were of pure English ancestry. The father was a stonemason by trade and also engaged in farming. Not satisfied, however, with his condition upon his native soil he, in 1843, started with his family for



America. After a long voyage on a sailing-vessel, our subject then being a little lad nine years of age, they arrived safely in New York City, and thence proceeded to Champaign County, Ohio.

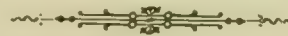
The Atkinson family settled upon a tract of land in the above-named county, upon which the father operated under many discouragements until 1847, then resolved to push further westward, and so sought the pioneer regions of Green County, Wis. He operated there more successfully as a tiller of the soil, and there with his excellent wife spent his last days. The mother departed hence Oct. 20, 1885, and the father followed in 1887. They were the parents of eight children.

The education of our subject was begun in the district schools of Champaign County, Ohio, and was completed in Green County, Wis., where he grew to man's estate. He was married when twenty-seven years of age, April 14, 1861, to Miss Polly R. Peckham, a native of New York State, but at that time a resident of Green County, Wis. Mrs. A. was born Nov. 18, 1839, and was the daughter of Abel and Ada (Brown) Peckham. The father spent his last years in Wisconsin. The mother is still living, at the advanced age of eighty-eight years. Our subject after marriage settled upon a farm in Green County, where he labored until 1865, then removed to Black Hawk County, Iowa. In the latter he made a specialty of sheep-raising. Still not satisfied with his surroundings, he pushed on further toward the setting sun, and finally made his last rendezvous in Clear Creek Precinct, this county. He first homesteaded 160 acres, which he occupied seven years, then sold and purchased his present farm. This comprises 560 acres and lies one mile northwest of Pawnee City. At the time he located here there had been no attempt whatever at improvement on the land, and consequently the buildings, the forest and fruit trees, and the other improvements characterizing the complete modern homestead, are the result of his own industry.

Mr. Atkinson has made a large portion of his money by stock-raising, keeping usually a herd of 400 head of cattle, twenty horses and 100 swine. He has made a study of this industry with results that should be eminently satisfactory. His

family consists of a most estimable wife and seven children, one child having died at the age of five years. The survivors form an intelligent and interesting group, and are named respectively: John E., Jennie A., Annie L., Charles A., Estelle, Maude and Jessie D. Jennie A. is the wife of J. H. Conover. The wedding took place in Box Butte County, Neb., Nov. 28, 1888, where she had taken a homestead, and was residing on the same at the time of her marriage.

Mr. Atkinson upon becoming a voting citizen, identified himself with the Republican party, to which he gives his undivided support. He has served his precinct as Road Supervisor, and also as School Director for many years. He is the scion of a sturdy race, and his paternal grandparents were Thomas and Ellen (Richmond) Atkinson, who spent their entire lives upon their native soil of Yorkshire, England. The maternal grandfather of Mrs. A. is well remembered by her, and spent the closing years of his life in Illinois. In addition to the home farm Mr. A. owns 240 acres in Miles Precinct, this county.



**ABRAHAM F. MANLEY.** The month of August, 1866, witnessed the first arrival of Mr. Manley in this county, and although the prospect before him was anything but inviting, "he had come to stay," and made his arrangements accordingly. He found himself with plenty of room—a large open stretch of prairie all to himself and his little family—and he proceeded first to erect a shelter in the shape of a log house. In the meantime they slept under the canvas of the covered wagon. Twenty years have worked a vast change not only in the face of the country but in the circumstances of our subject. He occupies an honorable place among the pioneers of Pawnee County, socially and financially, and as such is entitled to prominent mention in this work.

The town of Clinton, Ripley Co., Ind., was the native place of our subject, and the date of his birth Oct. 14, 1849. His father was Martin Manley, a New Englander by birth and training, born near the city of Montpelier, Vt., in 1801. He married Miss Huldah Halford, who was ten years his

junior, having been born in 1811, in New York. The paternal grandfather, James Manley, also a native of the Green Mountain State, followed farming there during the younger years of his life, but in 1811 emigrated to the young State of Ohio, locating near what is now Cicero, in Hancock County. Two years later, however, he pushed on further westward to Indiana, and located in Ripley County, being one of its first settlers. He took up 160 acres of land, from which he constructed a good farm, and where he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1854.

The great-grandfather of our subject was also a native of Vermont, and the son of an English gentleman, who emigrated to America during the Colonial times, and carried a musket in the Revolutionary War, being then an old man. After the Colonists had achieved their independence he returned to Vermont, engaged in farming, and died there at the age of eighty years. On the mother's side, Grandfather Alex. Halford was born in New York State, where he engaged in farming in early life, but in 1813 removed to Ohio. He purchased a tract of wild land in Muskingum County, but two years later, upon the outbreak of the Indian wars on the frontier, removed to Dearborn County, Ind., and located upon a tract of land. This he left in 1820, starting South with his family on a boat, and was never afterward heard from.

The maternal great-grandfather of our subject was American born, but of Scotch descent. Martin Manley, the father of our subject, was twelve years of age when his parents removed to Ohio. He accompanied them to Ripley County, Ind., assisted in the opening up a farm, and lived in that State until 1865, in the meantime being married and becoming the father of a family. That year he sold out and took up his abode on a small farm in Crawford County, Ill. He only survived this removal one year, dying in 1866. The mother afterward made her home with her daughter and son, and died in Kentucky, in 1874. She was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The parental family of our subject included five children, namely: Emily, Martin V. B.; Abraham F., our subject; Marietta and Martha J. Martin, soon after the outbreak of the Civil War, enlisted

in Company B, 51st Indiana Infantry, serving three years, and until December, 1864. In the meantime he engaged in several conflicts with the enemy, and on one of the raids occurring about that time was captured and sent to Belle Isle Prison, where he was confined two weeks; then, through a lucky mistake, he was exchanged, and returned home in safety. The children are located mostly in Nebraska.

The subject of this sketch remained under the parental roof until a youth of fifteen years. In the fall of 1854 he engaged to manage the locomotive power of a canal boat, and later employed himself on a farm. His educational advantages have been extremely limited, the necessity for making himself useful preventing his attendance at school. He finally engaged in steamboating on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, from Lawrenceburg, Ind., to New Orleans, and became an expert pilot, knowing the location of about every snag and sand bank of importance in those waters. He was thus employed six seasons, making trips from Lawrenceburg to New Orleans in forty-four days. In midsummer he engaged in sawmilling, and was thus variously occupied until 1862. On the 18th of August, that year, he enlisted in Company G, 83d Indiana Infantry, and prepared to fight the battles of his country. The regiment was assigned to the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 15th Corps, Army of the Tennessee, and he was mustered in at Lawrenceburg, Ind., whence the boys were sent soon afterward to Memphis, Tenn. Thence they proceeded down the Mississippi to Vicksburg, and engaged with the enemy at Chickasaw Bayou, skirmishing along the line, and finally returning to Vicksburg. They were employed in that locality digging a canal until February, when the valley was overflowed, and they proceeded up the levee and encamped at Young's Point. Later followed the Yazoo River expedition, and upon the concentration of troops at Vicksburg they repaired thither once more, and were all through the siege of that city and until after its surrender.

Mr. Manley thereafter did good service as a soldier at Mission Ridge, and witnessed Hooker's fight above the clouds. Later followed the siege of Atlanta, and our subject participated in many im-



portant engagements of that campaign, marching with Sherman to the sea. At Raleigh, S. C., they received news of Lee's surrender, and soon afterward started for Washington, our subject and his comrades taking part in the grand review, and shortly afterward received their discharge and were mustered out. His army experience was similar to that of thousands of others, replete with hardships and privations, and having little to reward him besides the consciousness of having done his duty. Years hence, when his grandchildren will perhaps peruse these papers, it will be a matter of pride to which they will point with much satisfaction.

Upon leaving the service our subject returned to Indiana, and operated the engine of a sawmill until August, 1866. He then started for Nebraska, crossing the Missouri River at St. Joseph, and homesteaded 160 acres of land in Mission Creek Precinct, within whose limits he has since resided. His experience on the frontier was similar to that of hundreds of others, with the exception that he formed the advance guard of settlement in this section. He labored a number of seasons in bringing his land to a state of cultivation, enclosing it with fences and putting up the necessary buildings. He then began planting fruit and forest trees, and has now a fine grove of seven acres and an orchard of 600 apple trees in good bearing condition. Besides enclosing his land there was considerable cross fencing to be done. He was fortunate in his selection of a location, and has not a foot of waste land on his premises. His attention for the past few years has been largely given to stock-raising, including horses, cattle and swine. He has a fine windmill, with water tanks and everything convenient for the prosecution of his calling. The homestead in all respects forms one of the ideal rural estates, conducted after the most approved modern methods.

In 1862 our subject was united in marriage with Miss Naomi Clark, in Ripley County, Ind. Mrs. Manley is, like her husband, a native of that county, where she was reared to womanhood, and remained with her parents until becoming the mistress of her own home. Of this congenial union there have been born seven children, the eldest of whom, a

son, Elmer E., is married, and carrying on farming in Gage County; Lillian J. is the wife of H. Hallett; he is a teacher by profession, and they live in the city of Lincoln. Frances E. married Mr. H. Garrison, and they live on a farm in Morse County, Kan.; Charles H., Thomas E., Arthur and Alonzo F. are at home with their parents.

Mr. Manley, politically, is a decided Republican, and has been a useful man in local politics, frequently serving as a delegate to the various conventions, and cheerfully giving his time and influence to the furtherance of its principles. He has represented his precinct in the County Board of Supervisors and has been a member of the School Board for years. Socially, he belongs to the G. A. R. and the Grange in Mission Creek.

**L. CORNELL**, dealer in general merchandise, grain and live stock, in the town of Violet, is one of the most successful and enterprising representatives of those varied interests to be found in Pawnee County. He was born in Plumfield, Somerset Co., N. J., Oct. 16, 1848. He comes of fine stock, and on his mother's side traces his ancestry back to Sir Francis Drake, the famous navigator of Queen Elizabeth's time. The father of our subject, William Cornell, was born in New York State, and his mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Drake, was born in Somerset County, N. J. Elijah Cornell, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in New York State, and after attaining manhood he was for many years a prosperous hardware merchant in New York City. His death occurred in that great metropolis in 1866, he then having reached the ripe old age of over eighty years. He was a Quaker in his religion, and was in every way a thoroughly good man. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Noah Drake, was a well-to-do farmer and stock-raiser of Somerset County, N. J. He took an active part in the War of 1812. In his religious faith he was a firm Baptist. His death occurred in 1854, at an advanced age.

The father of our subject was reared in New York City. He had a great natural taste for the



sea, and at the age of eighteen became a sailor, and made his first voyage. For twenty years his life was passed mostly before the mast, and he worked his way up to the position of first mate of a vessel. He traveled extensively, visiting China, East India, and many other foreign countries, and was shipwrecked many times. His health finally gave way, and he settled down to life on dry land, and locating on a farm in New Jersey, comprising 110 acres, engaged in farming and stock-raising until his death in 1859, at the age of fifty-two years. He was a man of good mental capacity, of clever, upright character, and hearty, generous feelings, and with his respected wife, was held in affection by all in the community where they resided. They were both esteemed and consistent members of the Baptist Church, although he had been reared a Quaker. He was a Republican in his politics. Of that marriage six children were born: Thomas L., Mary (deceased), Sarah, Lillie, Walter and Jane. After the father's death the mother moved to Illinois in 1863, and there died at the age of sixty-five, in August, 1883.

Our subject was eleven years old when he had the misfortune to lose his father, and he continued to live with his mother until the age of fourteen. He secured an excellent education in the graded schools of Plumfield, N. J., and in 1863 accompanied his mother to Delaware, Tazewell Co., Ill. He worked on a farm there for two years, and then operated his mother's farm until the spring of 1868. Then, ambitious to avail himself of the advantages offered to energetic and intelligent young farmers by the cheap lands of Nebraska, he migrated to this State, coming by boat to Rulo, and thence with wagon to Pawnee County. He preempted 160 acres of land on section 1, Miles Precinct, improved it to some extent, and after proving upon it, sold it. He then rented a farm and bought stock, and continued on that place until he was old enough to take up a homestead, and then bought a claim of 160 acres on section 14, Miles Precinct. It was wild land with no improvements, he being one of the first settlers in the precinct, and he broke the soil, set out two acres of groves and an orchard, sowed some of his land to tame grass, fenced the place with hedge and wire, and

made many other valuable improvements. He purchased more land, until he had a fine farm of 240 acres, and he then bought two farms adjoining, and had 445 acres of improved farming land. He raised sheep extensively, and at one time had a flock of 3,200 Merinos. He thus had one of the most extensive sheep ranches in Pawnee County, and used to ship some two carloads of wool a year. He also raised other stock, and fed many hogs, besides buying and shipping stock to Kansas City. He continued to be largely engaged in the sheep business until 1884, when, the tariff being taken off wool, he found it not so profitable. He carried on general farming until 1886, when he disposed of his farm, and bought a stock of general merchandise of Gov. Butler, and a building at Violet, and engaged in the general merchandise business. He afterward increased his stock, and besides general merchandise, carries hardware, drugs, agricultural implements, etc. Mr. Cornell is also engaged in buying and shipping stock, and in buying grain, and has cribs and scales, also devotes much attention to raising horses of fine breed, and has one full-blooded whip stallion, "Diomedes," and others. Mr. Cornell is a man of versatile talents and indefatigable energy, possessing extraordinary business acumen and executive ability, whereby even from very early manhood he has been enabled to handle extensive interests with ease and profit.

Our subject was married to Miss Mayra Osborn, near Pawnee City, Neb., in April, 1878. She is a native of Indiana, and a daughter of David M. Osborn. She was finely educated, attending the Normal School of Nebraska, and for some years was a very successful teacher.

Our subject has built a cozy residence in his store building, and his happy household circle is completed by the three children—Nellie, Edna and Grace—who have blessed the marriage of himself and wife.

Mr. Cornell is the present Postmaster of Violet, and has held the position since 1886, yet he is one of the leading Republicans of this vicinity, and has been a delegate to County Conventions. He is prominently identified with the civic offices of the town, as Supervisor, member of the local School

Board, etc. He belongs to the Baptist Church in Pawnee City, and was active in building the church. He also assisted in building the Methodist Church in Violet, and was one of the building committee. He attends that church because it is more convenient, and is a teacher in the Sunday-school connected with it.



**E**LI T. BOONE, one of the early pioneers of Pawnee County, is an honored citizen of Table Rock Precinct, with whose farming interests he has been identified for more than twenty years, and he has actively assisted in developing its great agricultural resources. He came to his present farm in 1867, settling on it when it was a part of the unbroken prairie, and he built the first house that was erected on the high land in this precinct. This humble dwelling, a relic of pioneer days, is still standing, forming a part of his present commodious and conveniently arranged residence, that he built in 1872. The first primitive abode is a small frame house, 14x16 feet in dimensions, and Mr. Boone had to draw the lumber from Rulo, taking two days to go and come, and he had to pay about \$30 for his cottonwood lumber. In the busy years that followed his first settlement here our subject broke and improved his land as fast as possible, and now has one of the finest farms in this locality, it being well fenced and under admirable tillage, and amply provided with neat and substantial buildings, and good machinery for rendering the necessary work for operating it as easily done as possible. Mr. Boone has from time to time added to his original purchase, or sold land when he found it profitable to do so, until he now has ninety-three acres besides his homestead. He was for a time engaged in the nursery business, but gave way to O. D. Howe, and has since paid much attention to raising cattle, hogs, and horses of good grades, from which branch of agriculture he derives a good income. He devotes much of his time to the culture of fruit, and had the first bearing orchard anywhere within ten or twelve miles of this locality, he having set out the first orchard within those limits, it

containing forty apple trees. He now has a fine orchard of six acres, which has been in bearing for fifteen years, and contains some of the finest fruit in Pawnee County, among which are the Jonathan and Grimes Golden Pipkin, considered two of the best varieties of apples ever grown. In setting out his trees he dug holes for their reception four feet square and two feet deep, and by keeping them well watered and mulched he never lost any of them, and they have well repaid his good care by yielding from 300 to 500 bushels in different seasons, which he has sold at the rate of from fifty to seventy-five cents a bushel. Mr. Boone has also set out a good many acres of forest trees, and they make a good windbreak, thus protecting his crops and buildings.

Our subject is an Englishman by birth, and first saw the light of day in Somersetshire, Old England, March 20, 1834. His parents, John and Harriet (Shorney) Boone, were likewise natives of that country, the father having been born Aug. 20, 1804, and the mother Dec. 31, 1799. They lived and died in their native land, both being held in the highest respect for their many solid virtues and genuine worth of character. They were the parents of five children, whom they trained to honest and useful lives.

He of whom we write received a good practical education, and at the age of twenty-two, with that for capital, besides strong muscle and an energetic disposition, left the home of his childhood and youth with its many pleasant associations, and the friends that were dear to him, to seek on another continent a new home amid strange scenes and faces. After landing on these shores he proceeded to Warren, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., and there spent the few years that intervened before his settlement in Nebraska, where he came to cast his lot with the pioneers who had preceded him. While a resident of that county he had the good fortune to meet Miss Eunice Pepoon, who consented to unite her life with his, and Sept. 17, 1865, their marriage was duly solemnized. Of this union seven children have been born, viz.: Henry O., Gertrude M., Frederic G., Albert C., Frank C., Arthur E. and May E. They are all at home, and with fine educations, form a cultivated family group. Miss Ger-



trude has rare talent as an artist, and paints landscapes and flowers with remarkable fidelity to nature, from which she selects her subjects. Mrs. Boone is a daughter of Deacon Silas Pepoon, for a sketch of whose life see the biography of J. B. and T. W. Pepoon. She was born in Painesville, Ohio, Aug. 23, 1841, and has indeed been a true helpmate to her husband, who is greatly indebted to her cheerful assistance for his prosperity, and to her children she is a wise and tender mother.

As an honest, sturdy, intelligent, upright man, our subject has had a marked influence in the civic affairs of this precinct, whose growth he has watched and aided from its infancy. He was a resident here as early as the time of the organization of District No. 35, and has for many years been a Director. As contractor and builder he built the first school-house here, erecting a small building worth \$500, and he was also Chairman and Director of the Building Committee that had charge of the erection of the present substantial structure that has replaced the old school-house. He is not, however, an office-seeker, preferring the quiet and comfort of a pleasant fireside to the bustle and discord of public life. In 1860 he made a trip, in company with others, across the plains to Oregon, with ox-teams; it took five months, and the year following, the war breaking out he enlisted in the 1st Oregon Cavalry, and served three years in the Army of the Pacific Slope, their duties principally being in guarding coast defenses, and protecting the emigrants and settlers from the Indians. After his discharge he returned to Warren, Ill. He is a member of the G. A. R., and he and his family occupy a prominent social position in this community. In politics he votes with the Republican party, which finds in him one of its staunchest supporters.



**W**ILLIAM H. CURTIS. Pawnee City for some time has been taking upon herself the airs of older towns, and has already quite a list of retired merchants. This fact illustrates her rapid growth, and the fact that it has not taken a lifetime for an enterprising man to accumulate a competency. The experience of Mr. Curtis in this

region has been one more than ordinarily fortunate, and he is now living amid the comforts of a pleasant home, with, it is to be hoped, many comfortable years before him.

The birthplace of our subject was many leagues from the spot of his present residence, he having been born in Portland, Me., Sept. 28, 1822. He was the third in a family of ten children, five of whom lived to mature years. His father, William Curtis, also a native of the Pine Tree State, died in his prime, when but forty years of age. The mother, Miss Rebecca E. Perry, was a distant relative of Commodore Perry, of Lake Erie fame. She also was a native of Maine, in which State she resided until her marriage. After the death of her husband she removed to Parkman, same State, and from there to Wisconsin, where she died in the year 1862.

Young Curtis was thrown on his own resources when a lad of ten years, and employed himself at whatever he could find to do to make an honest living. He worked around among the farmers of Penobscot County, Me., and in 1848 migrated to Wisconsin, and took up land, where he settled and improved a farm. He left Wisconsin in 1860, and came to this county, at a time when the present site of Pawnee City was marked by four or five houses. In the fall of that same year he opened up a store on the corner of the Square, and conducted general merchandising until 1871.

Mr. Curtis in the meantime had been recognized as a valued addition to the community, and after serving in various other positions of trust and responsibility, was elected Clerk of Pawnee County, holding the office four years. He was also appointed Postmaster of Pawnee City, which position he occupied until resigning. He had been married in his native State, Dec. 22, 1845, to Miss Izabelle B. Whitney, who bore him two children, one of whom died in infancy. The other, a son, Charles H., is a newsdealer in Pawnee City. Mr. Curtis served as a member of the Constitutional Convention, and in social matters is identified with the I. O. O. F. He takes a warm interest in the success of the order, and has represented it in the Grand Lodge at Baltimore, Md.

Mr. Curtis, like the balance of the Republican



party of which he is a member, looks forward to the administration of President Harrison as marking an era in the history of this great country. He keeps himself well posted upon the current events, and is always to be found in favor of everything to benefit the county and elevate society.

**PETER G. FOALE.** The memoir which is briefly sketched in connection with the above name is that of one of the earliest settlers and most extensive land-owners of this county. He dates his advent into Nebraska Territory as the 4th of July, 1856, and further signalized it by taking up 160 acres of land a mile south of the Johnson County line. He is now the owner of a fine estate, having 760 acres of land in one body, and thoroughly improved, making it one of the most valuable homesteads in this region.

Mr. Foale, the first fall after coming to Nebraska, sheltered himself in a rail shanty, covered with hay, which was destroyed by fire. In the log structure which he afterward erected he lived a period of ten years, and in 1870 put up a solid stone dwelling. In 1884 he erected a larger and finer domicile on the other side of the Nemaha, and this has for the last four years been his abode. In the meantime, in connection with these improvements, he has set out an orchard and trees of the smaller fruits, has gathered together a goodly assortment of farm stock and machinery, and bears the reputation of being one of the most wide-awake and successful agriculturists in this section of country.

Coming to Table Rock Precinct before its school districts were organized, Mr. Foale was instrumental in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and was one of the first officers on the board of his district. He has never lost his interest in education, has officiated as School Treasurer, and as may be supposed, assisted in the erection of the first school building. Although a man liberal and public-spirited, and ever on the alert to encourage the enterprises calculated to build up his community, he cares very little for politics, in

fact is considerably disgusted with the doings of public officials. When he came to this region he had only one neighbor in sight, Mr. Armstrong, half a mile away. His nearest market was at Brownville, thirty miles away. In the erection of his stone house he did most of the work himself. Desirous of better facilities for the education of his son he went to Missouri, and spent the year 1860 and about half of 1861 there, but owing to the war the schools were not kept.

Mr. Foale inherited the prominent traits of his character from his English ancestors, and is himself a Briton by birth, his native place being in Devonshire, where he was born Feb. 11, 1822. He lived there until a man of twenty-six years, emigrating to America in July, 1848. He settled first in Erie County, Ohio, and in October following was married to Miss Susan Hewitt. There were born to them two children, Oscar and William; the latter died when a few months old.

Upon leaving Ohio Mr. and Mrs. Foale took up their residence first in Adams County, Ill., and thence removed to St. Joseph, Mo. Our subject for a number of years after leaving Ohio worked at his trade, although his intention had been from the start to have a farm of his own. With that aim in view he was willing to undergo the hardships and privations of the pioneer settler, and the manner in which he has been rewarded for his perseverance and his labors it would seem might be a source of abundant satisfaction. His farm is very productive, and of late years he has found that stock-raising was easier than the cultivation of the soil, and fully as profitable. He usually keeps 160 head of graded cattle, besides numbers of good horses and swine.

Mrs. Susan (Hewitt) Foale, the wife of our subject, was born in Erie County, Ohio, Feb. 19, 1822, and is the daughter of Collins H. and Mary (Van Ness) Hewitt, the mother being one of the noted Van Ness family, of Kinderhook, N. Y. Mrs. F. was reared by an aunt, Mrs. Carpenter, with whom she lived from early childhood until her marriage. Oscar, the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Foale, was born in August, 1850. He received a common-school education, and was married to Miss Ann Supple, who bore him two children—Amy and

Percy. Mr. Foale is essentially a self-made man, having started out early in life dependent upon his own efforts, which after all proved to him a school of inestimable value in making him self-reliant, industrious and economical, thus laying the basis of his future success. In politics he is now independent. During the war he was a stanch Union man. In religious belief he is liberal.

William Foale, the father of our subject, was also a native of Devonshire, England, and married a lady of his own county, who bore him four children, three of whom are living.

Collins Hewitt, the father of Mrs. Foale, married Miss Mary Van Ness, of Erie County, Ohio, and to them were born seven children, of whom Mrs. F. was next to the youngest. The mother died, and Mr. Collins contracted a second marriage, and there were added to the number of his offspring several more children. He is now deceased, as is also his second wife.



**J**EREMIAH N. McCASLAND, M. D., has been a practicing physician of good repute for a period of over thirty years, and has spent the greater part of this time in Pawnee City, having come to Nebraska Territory as early as 1858. As may be supposed, there were then but a few unimportant houses on the site of this present wealthy and flourishing town. The young physician opened an office, and although not being at first rushed with business, performed his duties as faithfully and conscientiously as if a thousand people were watching his movements. This course bore its legitimate fruits in the confidence and esteem of the people for miles around, and in due time he found himself on the high road to prosperity. He is now numbered among the most skilled and reliable practitioners of the county.

It may be proper to glance at the opening years of the life of our subject, which were spent in the vicinity of the town of Madison, in Jefferson County, Ind., where his birth took place Sept. 3, 1821. His father, George McCasland, was a native of Kentucky, a wheelwright during the most active years of his life, and later engaged in agricultural

pursuits. He married a lady of his own State, Miss Rachel, daughter of Jeremiah Laws, of Mercer County, Ky., and they lived there until 1830. They then emigrated to Indiana, where they spent the remainder of their days.

The household circle of George McCasland and his estimable wife was completed by the birth of fourteen children, who, with one exception, all lived to attain their majority. Jeremiah N. was the fifth child. He pursued his first studies in the schools of his native county, where he continued to reside with his parents until twenty-three years of age. Probably the first important event of his life was his marriage with Miss Elizabeth A., daughter of Joseph Woods. The Woods family removed from Jefferson to this county in 1857.

After their marriage the Doctor and his wife settled in Jefferson County, Ind., where our subject engaged in the milling business on the waters of Big Creek, and where he operated successfully a number of years. Thence he removed to Jackson County, Ind., and conducted a gristmill four years. In the meantime he utilized his leisure hours in reading medicine, and availed himself of the excellent instruction of Dr. Green. When sufficiently advanced he entered upon a course of lectures in the Medical College at Louisville, Ky., and a few months later commenced the practice of his chosen profession as the partner of his old instructor, Dr. Green. He left Indiana in the spring of 1858, coming to this county, and his after course we have already indicated. Only a comparatively brief time had elapsed until he was appointed by Gov. Butler First Assistant Physician for the Insane Asylum at Lincoln, a position which he held two years. Upon retiring from this he resumed his practice in Pawnee City and vicinity, and was fully established years ago as one of its leading physicians.

Dr. McCasland, as one of the early pioneers of Pawnee County, looked upon this region of country before the streams were bridged, and before there was a railroad line west of St. Louis. No man has taken a livelier interest in the growth and progress of his adopted county, and he has contributed to its prosperity in no small degree. He is the father of eight children, three of whom died at a tender







*Yours Truly*  
*John P. Swallow*

age. The eldest of the survivors is Louisa, the wife of James Butler, and residing in this city; Elnora is married to her second husband, B. F. Hill, and lives in St. Joseph, Mo.; Lilly B. is the wife of J. R. Ervin; Minnie married M. M. Pad-don; Hattie lives at home with her parents, and Etta is the wife of Ed. S. Ames.

Dr. McCasland also gained the title of Honorable during the Territorial days, having been elected by the Republicans of Pawnee County to represent them in the Legislature, in which he served two terms. In religious matters he inclines to the doc-trines of the Christian Church, of which he is a member. For good and sufficient reasons he left the Republican party in 1882, and became a sup-porter of the Cleveland administration. He voted for John C. Fremont in 1856. Socially, he be-longs to Pawnee Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M., and is a charter member of Interior Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F.

David McCasland, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Virginia, whence he re-moved with his parents to Kentucky when a mere child. He was of Welsh ancestry, the great-grand-father of our subject having emigrated from Scot-land probably during the Colonial days. The mother of our subject traced her forefathers to Wales.



**JOHN P. SWALLOW.** It is said that this gentleman is one of the most enterprising citizens of Burchard—one who has been closely identified with its business interests, and who has done much to facilitate the building up of the town. He is seldom idle, employing himself almost constantly either with his hands or his brain, and has made it a lifelong habit to ob-serve what was going on around him and keep him-self posted with regard to matters of general interest. He has been for some time operating as an extensive coal dealer, and is also manager of the grain elevator of DeW. Q. Diven & Co. He came to the West as early as 1856, and to Nebraska in the spring of 1857. For a period of over thirty years he has been closely associated with the best

interests of the State, which was under Territorial Government at the time of his coming here.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Swallow was born in Pittston Township, Luzerne County, May 16, 1831. His father, Benjamin Swallow, was also born in that county, in 1808, and married Miss Mary Price, a native of England, and born in 1808. The paternal grandfather, Capt. Joseph Swallow, was a native of New Jersey, whence he removed to Luzerne County, Pa., when eighteen years old. He took up a tract of timber land, from which he cleared the forest and constructed a good home-stead, becoming well-to-do. Of patriotic impulse, he shouldered his musket in the War of 1812, and for his bravery and fidelity to duty was given a Captain's commission. When the war ended he returned to the peaceful pursuits of farm life, and spent the remainder of his days in his adopted State. He departed hence in 1860, at the advanced age of eighty years. In politics he was an old-line Whig. His wife in her girlhood was Miss Mary A. Cooper, whose father, George Cooper, also served in the Revolutionary War, and witnessed the Wyoming massacre, being one of the last to leave the field. Grandmother Swallow survived her hus-band and lived to be almost one hundred years old. Her mother, the great-grandmother of our subject, lived likewise to be nearly a centenarian. The Swallow family originated in Germany, and from that country the ancestors of our subject emigrated, settling in New Jersey.

On the mother's side Grandfather George Price was born in England, and came to America about 1816, settling in Luzerne County, Pa., where he opened up a large farm, and under it there was later discovered a bed of coal. He was thus en-abled to sell his property at a good round sum, and removing to New Jersey retired from active labor, establishing himself in the village of Middle-town, where he spent the remainder of his days in ease and comfort, and died in 1848.

Benjamin Swallow, the father of our subject, was reared to man's estate in Pennsylvania, acquiring a common-school education. He was also married there, and operated a small farm. Underneath this also there was a coal mine, which the elder Swallow developed with success and finally sold, removing

to what is now Lackawanna County, Pa. There also he purchased land, prosecuted farming, and died Dec. 14, 1888. The mother is still living at the old homestead, is a good woman and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

To the parents of our subject there were born ten children, the eldest of whom was John P. The others were named respectively: Rasselas D.; James, who died when thirty-one years old; Elizabeth, Belle, Caroline, George; Benjamin, Jr., deceased; and Joseph, his twin brother, also Josephine. R. D. served a few months as home guard during the late war. James was for a short time a member of the Pennsylvania Reserves; George enlisted in the regular army, serving along the Potomac two years, and until the close of the war. The children living are mostly residents of Pennsylvania.

Upon reaching his majority the subject of this sketch turned his steps toward the farther West, determined to seek his fortunes on the other side of the Mississippi. He made his way by railroad, stage and team, first to Fremont County, Iowa, but sojourned there only a short time. Returning eastward as far as Illinois he spent the winter of 1856-57 in Grundy County, and the spring following started out again for the West. He first located in Johnson County, this State, in 1857, taking up a squatter claim of 160 acres three and one-half miles north of the present site of Sterling, on the Nemaha. There was then not a railroad track in Nebraska, and Mr. Swallow was one of the first men to settle in his vicinity. He held to his land until it came into market, in the meantime operating as a grain dealer at the then hamlet of Nebraska City, buying corn, also driving stage and freighting. He also operated as mail carrier, and in fact engaged in whatever he could that would enable him to turn an honest penny.

In the summer of 1861 Mr. Swallow, rather tired of life on the frontier, returned to Grundy County, Ill., and engaged in farming until after the outbreak of the Civil War. He watched the conflict until the 8th of August, 1862, then resolved to proffer his services in assisting to preserve the Union. He enlisted in Company E, 91st Illinois Infantry, which was made a part of the 2d Brigade, 3d Division, 13th Army Corps, Southwestern Army;

was mustered in at Camp Butler September 8, and with his comrades sent into Kentucky. In the battle at Elizabethtown he was taken prisoner with his regiment, but soon afterward was paroled, and his regiment went to Benton Barracks, where they remained until June, 1863, when they were exchanged and proceeded down the Mississippi to Vicksburg, thence to New Orleans, and joined an expedition into Texas. Mr. Swallow in due time became chief clerk in the commissary department, which occupied his time until April, 1865, when he joined his regiment on Fish River, in Alabama, in time to participate in the taking of Spanish Fort. Thence they repaired to Ft. Blakely, and afterward to Mobile City, and thence went up the Tombigbee River to blockade the rebel navy. A few weeks later the news came of the surrender of Gen. Lee, and our subject with his comrades was sent to Mobile, mustered out and honorably discharged at Camp Butler, near Springfield, Ill.

Mr. Swallow now returned to his old haunts in Grundy County, Ill., and followed farming there and in Kendall County until the fall of 1869. Nebraska had now been admitted into the Union as a State, and the frontier was being gradually settled up by an intelligent class of people. He decided accordingly to proceed hither and develop his land. He made the journey overland with a team, being three weeks on the way. He crossed the Missouri River at Nebraska City, and upon reaching his purchase put up a shelter for himself and began the improvements which have resulted in one of the best farms in this section. After bringing the soil to a good state of cultivation he turned his attention largely to stock-raising, also to the buying and selling of grain, making his headquarters at Sterling.

Mr. Swallow having a good opportunity to sell out, disposed of his farm property in 1882, and took up his residence in Burchard, where he put up his present building in that year, in a field where the corn stalks were still standing, but which is now the corner of Gage and Second streets. He began dealing in coal and grain and soon built up a large trade. In 1883 he invested a part of his capital in furniture, in company with Mr. F. Bstandig, the partnership continuing until 1886, at



which time Mr. Swallow withdrew, and has since confined himself exclusively to dealing in coal and grain. He purchased the first grain which came to the town, and assumed charge of the elevator in 1885. He possesses more than ordinary good business capacities, while his industry and application are matters of frequent mention.

Our subject found his bride in Johnson County, this State, being married near Sterling, in November, 1882, to Mrs. Phebe Helms. This lady was born in Steuben County, N. Y., and is the mother of three children by her first husband: Blachart, a railroad engineer, and a resident of Wymore; Dr. J. E. Helms, of Burchard; and Mattie J., living at home, and who is local editor of the Burchard *Times*. They occupy a neat and comfortable home in the eastern part of the city, and number their friends among its most cultivated people. Mr. Swallow, politically, belongs to the Union Labor party, who nominated him for the State Legislature in 1888. He has been a member of the Town Board, and served as Justice of the Peace two terms. He also acts as agent for Burchard real estate, and is quite successful in disposing of town lots. Socially, he is a member of the I. O. O. F., and also a charter member of William A. Butler Post No. 172, G. A. R. He has frequently served on the Grand and Petit Juries, and there are few enterprises having for their object the general welfare of the community in which his aid is not solicited. He is a man of sound judgment, in fact one of the representative men of Pawnee County, and is one of the proprietors of the Burchard *Times*. A portrait of this representative and well-known citizen of Pawnee County is shown on an adjoining page.



**J**OHN WHALEY. The life record of this honored pioneer of Pawnee County is one which his children may be proud to look upon in after years. A man quiet and unobtrusive in demeanor, he still possesses much latent strength of character, as illustrated in the manner in which he has labored to build up a homestead from the wilderness, and a good reputation among his fellowmen. His earlier years were character-

ized by incessant industry, prudence and economy, the exercise of which has borne its legitimate fruits, as he is now in possession of a competence, and sitting under his own vine and fig tree, surrounded by all life's comforts and the respect of his neighbors, is enjoying the fruits of a well-spent life. There are few men living in this county who ventured upon the soil at the time when he did, the old landmarks slowly disappearing.

Mr. Whaley came to Sheridan Precinct in July, 1864, and on the 15th day of that month filed a homestead claim for 160 acres of land, forty of which he sold later to his son-in-law, Francis E. Washburn. The balance he has since lived upon and given his attention to its improvement and cultivation. Upon it not a furrow had been turned when he took possession, and there was not a tree or a shrub, not even a hint of a bush large enough to make a riding whip. There is now presented the picture of an abundance of forest and fruit trees, an orchard covering six or seven acres, and trees of the smaller fruits, which yield to the household the luxuries of the season. He planted hedge around their whole quarter-section, cross fenced with the same, and brought the whole to a good state of cultivation. In 1869 he put up a neat and substantial dwelling. Prior to this they had lived in a small frame structure, and when first coming here occupied a cellar two winters before the first house was finished.

Our subject spent the first nine years of his life near the village of Schuyler, in Herkimer County, N. Y., where he was born March 20, 1816. In 1825 his father removed to the western part of the State, where our subject lived with the family until he was twenty-one years old, then removed to Kalamazoo County, Mich., where he operated a farm until December, 1839. He had in the meantime learned the mason's trade, and also employed himself as a general mechanic during his early manhood. Indeed he has operated as mechanic and mason combined since that time, hiring men to work his farm, raising grain largely, and feeding what he raises to stock.

Mr. Whaley left Kalamazoo County for St. Joseph County after a few years, residing in the latter from 1839 to 1864, excepting a few years' residence in

Kalamazoo, carrying on farming and working at his trade. In 1864 he disposed of his farm property and sought the new Territory of Nebraska, of which he has since been a resident. He assisted in the organization of Sheridan Precinct, and has been a member of the board since that time. Through his encouragement and support and that of the other enterprising men around him, the schools are conducted eight or nine months each year. His eldest daughter taught the first school in the district. Mr. Whaley has been one of the leading men in local affairs, and served as a Justice of the Peace many years, having for some time an office in town. Although rather independent in politics, he usually votes the Republican ticket.

After coming to this county Mr. Whaley began operating as a builder and contractor, and many of the best structures of Pawnee Precinct give evidence of his skill and genius. Among these is the Exchange Hotel, the First Methodist Episcopal Church, the store building of H. Irving and others, upon some of which he worked as a mason, and others merely superintending. When he came to Sheridan Precinct, St. Joseph, ninety-two miles away, was the nearest railroad station, and the nearest point furnishing a market and supplies was Brownville. There was one store at Pawnee City, but no other houses. For the purpose of erecting his first buildings Mr. Whaley was obliged to haul lumber from Rulo and Brownville, forty-five miles distant, making the round trip in two days. He had to ford all the creeks, frequently meeting not a soul on the way. There then stood only two houses on the prairie, and Pawnee City was marked by perhaps twenty structures, including sheds and others. His children in those early days traveled two miles across the prairie to school, when it was unmarked even by a wagon track. A neighbor with careful forethought hitched his horses to a plow and made a furrow for the children to follow so they should not get lost.

Our subject while a resident of Kalamazoo County, Mich., was married, Oct. 11, 1840, to Miss Elizabeth Portman. This lady was born July 25, 1821, in Chautauqua County, N. Y., and is the daughter of James and Lucy (Gilson) Portman, the former a native of Sugar Grove, Pa., and the latter of Chautau-

qua County, N. Y. Mr. P., after reaching man's estate, migrated to Chautauqua County, N. Y., where he was married and reared a family of eight children. Later they removed to Michigan, where the death of Mr. Portman took place in 1856. The mother survived a number of years, and spent her last days in Clinton County, Mich. The father of Mrs. Whaley was a millwright by trade, but after coming to the West secured a tract of land which he improved into a good farm.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born eight children, five of whom are living: Laura J. is the wife of L. C. DeCodress, of Box Butte County, Neb., and the mother of seven children, namely: Nettie M., Ruth E., Edith C., John L., Libby, Alma and Nina. Lovica A. married Augustus Colony, of Pawnee City, and has three children—Blanche, Herbert and Perl; Florence, Mrs. F. E. Washburn, is the mother of two children—Julia Ann and Eva L.; James E. married Miss Nancy Canady, of Pawnee City; they reside in Box Butte County, and are the parents of two children—Rhoda E. and Minnie M. Gideon P. is single, and a resident of Box Butte County. Mary E. became the wife of James E. McIntyre, who died in the army, and had one son, James E., who is now married, and the father of two children; he also lives in Box Butte County. Mr. McIntyre was never heard from but once after his arrival at Williamsburg, N. C., with the invalid corps, where he died in the hospital. In 1866 Mrs. McL. married Hugh Wright, of Pawnee City, Neb., and died Feb. 28, 1871, leaving two daughters, Anola and Harriet, the latter of whom is the adopted daughter of Mr. John Colony, and in Pawnee City, and the former is with her father in Ohio. Sarah A. became the wife of J. J. Coard, and died July 25, 1877, leaving four children—Arthur J., Mary E., Lovica E. and Lewis J. The younger children are in Illinois, and the eldest boy makes his home with his grandfather Whaley. Hiram Ernest, the eldest son of our subject, died unmarried, when a promising young man in the twentieth year of his age. Mr. and Mrs. Whaley have twenty-eight descendants in all, there being besides their five children twenty-one grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Edward Whaley, the father of our subject, was a



native of Rhode Island, born in the city of Providence, and after his marriage to Miss Sally Chase removed to Herkimer County, N. Y., taking up a tract of new land, upon which he operated until 1825. He then removed to Erie County, and from there to Michigan, a few years after his son John had settled there, about 1839 or 1840. Both he and his estimable wife spent their last years in St. Joseph County, that State.

After the outbreak of the Rebellion Mr. Whaley enlisted as a soldier of the Union Army, July 28, 1862, in Company K, 19th Michigan Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee. He was mustered in Sept. 5, 1862, as First Lieutenant, and remained in the service until November following, acting chiefly as guard around the city of Cincinnati. Prior to this, however, he had enlisted with the Mechanical Fusileers, doing service at Chicago, and assisting to build the barracks at Camp Douglas. Mr. W. is a member of the G. A. R., and has been a member of the Pawnee County bar for the last fourteen years.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Whaley are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. W. is particularly interested in Sunday-school work. The fact that he is highly spoken of by the people of his community is sufficient indication of his standing as a farmer and a citizen. Besides his property in Pawnee Precinct he is the owner of a timber claim in Box Butte County, Neb.



**M**ICHAEL BYRNE. Among the citizens of Pawnee County, who, as sons of its pioneers, were reared within its bounds, and within the last decade have stepped to the front to perform their share in sustaining and further developing the great agricultural interests of the State of Nebraska, the subject of this biographical notice occupies no mean position. He is skillfully operating a farm of seventy-seven acres on section 14, Plum Creek Precinct, within a mile of the village of Burchard. Nine years ago said farm was a tract of wild prairie land, with not a furrow turned. Since that time our subject, with patient, indefatigable industry, has wrought a great change,

and now its fertile acres produce abundant harvests. A neat house and barn, and other necessary farm buildings, give a home-like look to the place. The land has been fenced with wire, and groves and orchards have been planted, the latter containing 153 choice fruit trees. The farm is pleasantly located near Plum Creek, by which it is well watered, and a fine bit of native timber along the creek belongs to the estate, and adds to its picturesqueness and value. Mr. Byrne carries on general farming, raises a number of cattle and hogs, and has five head of horses.

Our subject is the son of a well-known and highly prosperous pioneer of Pawnee County. Owen Byrne, one of the first settlers of Plum Creek Precinct, who has ever since been identified with its agricultural interests, and has greatly added to its material prosperity. He was born in County Roscommon, Ireland, and when a lad of seventeen years he migrated to America. He found employment on the public works in Lowell, Mass., and a few years later was married in that city to Miss Margaret Reily, a native of County Leitrim, Ireland. After marriage they went to live in Cleveland, Ohio, then a small city, and Mr. Byrne was engaged in breaking on the road. In 1854 he moved still further westward, and took up his residence in the small town of Des Moines, in which there were at that time but a few buildings. He was employed in public work there for four years. In 1858 another move found him in the young city of Leavenworth, Kan., and he also labored at public work there. By frugality, unremitting toil, and judicious management in the years that succeeded his arrival in this country, he had saved some money, which he determined to invest in the cheap farming lands of the then Territory of Nebraska, and in the fall of 1861 he crossed the Kansas line for that purpose, and entered 160 acres of timber land on the banks of Plum Creek, and thus early identified himself with the pioneers of this precinct. He broke the land, placed it under good cultivation, erected substantial buildings, and has added to his original purchase by buying 320 acres of land adjoining his homestead. He has deeded away all but 320 acres of his land, which he retains under his supervision, although he rents the



most of it. He has been very successful in his career, and now at the age of sixty-five can enjoy life free from the toils and cares that beset his earlier years. He is an active member of the Roman Catholic Church, and is justly held in great respect by all, not only as a pioneer of Pawnee County, but for his many excellent qualities as a man and a citizen. In 1873 he had the misfortune to lose his estimable wife, who had been to him a true wife and loving companion. She was but forty-five years of age at the time of her lamented death. Of that marriage five children were born, as follows: Thomas, Michael, John, James and Mary A.

Michael Byrne was born in Des Moines, Iowa, July 26, 1856, and was only four years old when his parents brought him to Nebraska. He grew up on his father's farm, with limited educational advantages, attending school only nine months, but he has since made up for the deficiencies of his early education by observation and reading, he having naturally a perceptive and retentive mind. He remained on the paternal homestead until he was about nineteen years of age, and then began life for himself, going to his native State, where he was engaged in railroading on the Iowa Central for three years, becoming overseer of a section. He subsequently returned to Plum Creek, and resumed on his father's farm the occupation to which he had been reared. In 1880 he located on his present farm, which his father then deeded to him, it consisting originally of eighty acres of land, but the railway has cut off three acres. We have noted how he has developed the wild tract of prairie into a valuable and productive farm. He has not been without the assistance of a good wife to help him in establishing his cozy home, as Feb. 21, 1882, he was married, in Des Moines, Iowa, to Miss Mary Monaghan. Mrs. Byrne was born in that city, Nov. 2, 1860, a daughter of John and Ellen (Kathy) Monaghan. Her parents were natives of Ireland, her father born in County Fermanagh, and her mother in County Kildare. They came to America single, and were married in Ohio. They subsequently moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where the father was employed as a stone worker, and continued to quarry stone, remaining a citizen of

that city until his death, March 3, 1880, at the age of forty-five years. The mother is still living in Des Moines, and is now fifty-five years old. She is a Roman Catholic, as was her husband. To them were born four children—Kate, Mary, James and Rosa. Two children, Maggie and Mary Ellen, complete the home circle of our subject and his wife.

Mr. and Mrs. Byrne are very highly thought of in their community, and move in the best society of the place. They are sincere and earnest Christians, and charter members of the Catholic Church at Burchard, helped to build it, and Mrs. Byrne is a valued teacher in the Sunday-school. Mr. Byrne is a man of active public spirit, and does all that he can to encourage the advancement of the precinct with which his interests have been identified for so many years. He did as much as any one individual in procuring the passage of the Burlington & Missouri River Railway through this place. He has done efficient public service as a civic officer, has been Road Supervisor for three years, and at present holds the office of School Treasurer. In his politics he is an ardent Democrat, and is known in the councils of his party, he having been a delegate to county conventions.

**ISAAC BROWN.** This plain, unvarnished name is quite typical of the character of its owner. By his neighbors he is called a good man, and this is a term which covers a wide range, and is understood as embracing all the elements of character essential to the honest man and the valued citizen. His career has been characterized by industry and perseverance, as evinced in the building up of a good farm, and by that kindly care and attention to the wants of his family and the well-being of his children, which embraces about all the Christian virtues. Of one epoch in the life of Mr. Brown he is particularly and justly proud, having distinguished himself as a Union soldier in the late Civil War.

The branch of the Brown family to which our subject traces his origin descended from substantial old English stock, William Brown, his great-grandfather, having been born on the other side of the

Atlantic in that country. There also he was married, and among his sons was one William, Jr., the grandfather of Isaac of this sketch. William Brown, Jr., emigrated to the United States about 1790, locating with his family in Delaware. There his first wife died, and he was soon afterward married to the grandmother of our subject, among whose children was Joseph, father of the latter. Grandmother Brown also died in Delaware. The grandfather was married a third time, to Miss Susan Johnson, and later removed with his family to Ohio, locating with the family of his son Joseph, in Pickaway County, where they lived several years. Thence they removed to Muskingum County, and there Grandfather Brown and his last wife departed from the scenes of earth. Joseph Brown spent his last days in Ohio.

The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 13, 1831, in Muskingum County, Ohio, one of the richest regions in the Buckeye State, the soil being very productive, and the natural resources of more than usual excellence. He was reared amid the peaceful pursuits of farm life. Desirous of seeing something of the Western country he migrated to McLean County, Ill., and there afterward made the acquaintance of Miss Jane Whitlow, to whom he was married June 22, 1871. Mrs. Brown was born Aug. 11, 1852, in Illinois, and is the daughter of Solomon and Eve Whitlow, who were natives of North Carolina. Our subject and his young wife crossed the two great Western rivers, the Mississippi and Missouri, landing in Merrick County, Neb., where they began their wedded life in a modest dwelling. They came to this county in the year 1879, and he secured sixty acres of land on section 14 in Clay Precinct, and endured in common with the people around him the hardships and difficulties of life in a new country. He has effected good improvements on his land, bringing the soil to a good state of cultivation, and erecting a substantial set of frame buildings. His farm embraces 100 acres, and is devoted to general agriculture. His plodding industry, his promptness in meeting his obligations, and his reliable character, generally entitle him to a place in the front ranks among the respected citizens of this county. To him and his excellent wife there were born six

children, two of whom, one unnamed and Lillie, died at a tender age. The survivors are Anna, Geraldina, Jane and Francis. They comprise an intelligent and interesting group, who have been reared to habits of industry, and given a practical education.

Mr. Brown upon the outbreak of the Civil War was a resident of Illinois. He watched the progress of the strife with deep interest, and in August, 1862, there seeming to be no prospect of a speedy termination of the war, he resolved to lay aside his personal interests and engage in assisting to put down the Rebellion. He enlisted in August, 1862, in Company A, 62d Ohio Infantry, and performed his duties faithfully until the close of the war. His regiment operated mostly with the Army of the Potomac, and Mr. Brown was in four heavy engagements, receiving a wound in each one. He first met the enemy at Chapeman's Farm in front of Richmond, and was successively at Petersburg, Deep Run and Ft. Wagner. His fidelity to duty secured him the respect of his comrades and the approval of his superior officers, likewise the approval of his own conscience. He was content to serve as a private, and at the close, rejoicing in the success of the Union arms, returned to his home in Ohio and resumed the peaceful pursuits of farming. It is hardly necessary to say that his sympathies and his vote are uniformly given in support of Republican principles. Mr. Brown is not connected with any religious organization, but his estimable wife belongs to the United Brethren Church.

**L**OUIS PEPPERL. One of the most attractive homes adjacent to the city of Burdard, the county seat of Pawnee County, is owned and occupied by the gentleman with whose name we introduce this sketch. Aside from its importance as a valuable piece of property, it is of more than ordinary worth to him, as he was reared to manhood under the same roof-tree which now shelters him, and has for his own the farm which his honored father opened up from the wilderness. The buildings are just outside the corporate limits, are neat and substantial in character,



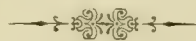
and with their surroundings complete the ideal rural estate. The farm is supplied with good machinery, including a fine windmill, with convenient water tanks, and everything necessary to stock-raising, an industry to which Mr. Pepperl gives largely his time and attention. He has excellent grades of horses, cattle and swine, and takes pride in his achievements in this department of agriculture. There is an ample supply of forest and fruit trees on the farm, forming groves, and an orchard of 150 trees, while the fields are largely laid off with beautiful hedge fencing, which, during the summer season especially, form a most pleasing picture in the landscape of this region. It comprises 140 acres of fertile land, which has been brought to a high state of cultivation, and which, already very valuable, is steadily increasing as the city of Burchard grows in population and importance.

As a man and a citizen, our subject stands high in his community, being enterprising and public-spirited, and uniformly willing to aid the enterprises calculated to build up his county. He is in the prime of life, having been born Feb. 12, 1860. The first twelve years of his life were spent many leagues from his present abiding-place, he having been born in the little town of Gossawoda, in the Austrian Kingdom of Bohemia, where he conned his first lessons in the public schools. In 1872 he came to America, taking passage on the steamer "Nemesis" at the port of Bremen, which landed him safely in New York City after a pleasant voyage of seventeen days. Thence he proceeded at once to Chicago, and began working in a furniture factory at cabinet-making. Two years later, in the spring of 1874, he resolved to seek the farther West, and came by rail to Table Rock, this county, of which they were among the first settlers. They camped on the open prairie until the father could provide a shelter for his family, and as soon as possible proceeded with the cultivation of the soil and the opening up of a farm.

Our subject assisted his father in the improvement of his land, and also added to the family income, working by the month in different places as he had opportunity. The elder Pepperl was successful in his operations, and in due time retired from active labor, while our subject took charge of

the farm, which later, by agreement, fell to him as his share of the estate. Most of the improvements which we behold to-day have been effected by the present proprietor, and reflect great credit upon his industry, his thoroughness as a farmer, and his taste and skill. In the biography of his brother, Frank Pepperl, found on another page in this work, will be noted the parental history. The family is numbered among the best element of this county, people who have preserved an unblemished record, and contributed their full quota in its development, morally, socially and financially.

Mr. Pepperl was reared in the doctrines of the Catholic Church, and still adheres to the faith of his forefathers, being identified with this church at Burchard. Upon becoming a voting citizen he identified himself with the Democratic party, and keeps himself well posted in regard to events of interest to the intelligent citizen. He has steadfastly avoided the responsibilities of office, preferring to give his best efforts to the pursuits of farm life.



JOEL D. HARRISON, a substantial and well-to-do farmer of Pawnee County, is actively identified with the agricultural interests of Table Rock, and on his farm of 160 acres on section 27 is the famous rock from which this precinct derives its name. The Table Rock Mills are also here, this place having been a mill site from a very early day in the settlement of the county, and the mills have been rebuilt and remodeled several times. Mr. Harrison may be denominated a pioneer of Southeastern Nebraska, as he came to this part of the country in 1866, and first settled in Richardson County when it was but sparsely inhabited, and he immediately took a hand with the early settlers in making improvements and developing the county, assisting in making roads, building bridges, etc. He also interested himself in the establishment of educational facilities, helping to organize School District No. 51 in that county, and he was the first School Director appointed for that district, and held that office while a resident of the county. The first school was held in a log house that had formerly been used as



a dwelling. In his capacity of millwright, carpenter and contractor, Mr. Harrison built some of the first substantial houses erected in Richardson County, and he erected the first flouring-mills in that county at Falls City, one on the Muddy, and also one on the Missouri at Rulo. In the latter place the river has encroached on the mill site, which was moved once to keep it out of the water. While thus busily engaged for others and in public work, our subject also found time to develop a farm from the wild prairie, he having taken up a tract of land in sight of Falls City, in the eastern part of Richardson County. He made all the usual improvements, erecting necessary farm buildings, and doing all that an active and industrious farmer would do to increase the value of his place, and lived there in comfort for six years. He then sold his property there, and crossing the border into this county, located in what is now Sheridan Precinct, buying a farm two miles south of Table Rock. That was also uncultivated land, and he proceeded to put it under admirable tillage, put out hedge, grove and orchard, and small fruits, built a fine house and other farm buildings, and in other ways improved it. He also took a prominent part in educational matters, helped to organize another school district, and held the first office of Moderator, and we may state in this connection that he has held the office of School Director for eighteen years. In 1882 Mr. Harrison disposed of that farm and moved to his present residence to look after his mill property, which he has recently sold. He managed the mills for one year, but has since devoted his time mostly to caring for his farm, which he has under fine cultivation, and with its neat buildings and various other improvements, is considered one of the best places in the neighborhood.

The subject of this biographical notice was born in Oneida County, N. Y., Aug. 9, 1837. He comes of an honorable ancestry, and his grandfather, Thomas Harrison, who was reared in New Jersey, was an early settler of Montgomery County, N. Y., going there in an early day, when the way was marked by blazed trees. He was a Revolutionary soldier, and after that war made his home in Oneida County. Earl Stimpson Harrison, the father of

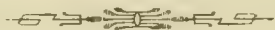
our subject, was born in Montgomery County in 1802. He moved to Oneida County during some period of his life, and was there engaged in the various employments of millwright, carpenter and farmer, also making shoes in the winter seasons. He married Miss Luany Bruce, and they became the parents of eight children, seven of whom lived to maturity. In 1851 he moved with his family to Grundy County, Ill., and was quite an early settler there. Although the railway had just been put through that part of the country it was sparsely inhabited, and one might travel for miles without seeing a house. He was actively engaged in his trade as carpenter and contractor, and with the aid of his son, our subject, erected many of the first houses at Morris and in other villages, and our subject put up the first building in Gardner, and continued that business until he came here. The father came to Nebraska several years after our subject, and with his wife settled in Richardson County, Joel building them a house on his farm, and in that they lived until the good wife died, Aug. 28, 1868. After that sad event Mr. Harrison returned to Grundy County, Ill., where his death occurred in 1870. He was a man of sterling worth, whose word was as good as another's bond, and he was respected by all who knew him.

Our subject lived in his native county until he was fifteen years old, and then accompanied his parents to their pioneer home in Grundy County, Ill. He received a sound education, and first engaged in farming for himself in that county, and as before stated, he became a practical, skillful carpenter and millwright, learning those trades of his father, and carrying them on very successfully for a number of years, as we have seen. Jan. 10, 1858, he and Miss Rosanna Patterson united their lives for better or worse, the marriage ceremony that made them one being performed in Grundy County. To them have come thirteen children, twelve of whom are still living. Some of them are already established in life, having received good educations, and the others are being well educated. William Henry married Emma Jones, and they live at Grand Island; they have four children. Joel D., Jr., married Amy Noble; they live in Belvidere and have one child. Frank-

lin A. married Viola Coard, and they live at Humboldt. The other children of our subject and his wife are as follows: Charles Edgar, Mary A., Thomas J., Herbert J., Mattie, Elliott, Edith, Eugenia and Carrie Maud.

Mrs. Harrison was born in Grundy County, Ill., Sept. 12, 1843. She is a daughter of William Patterson, and lived at home until the time of her marriage. Her parents, William and Martha (Halstead) Patterson, were natives of Ohio, and her father was born in Brown County, in May, 1805. He was one of the pioneers of Grundy County, going there in 1842, and became one of its prominent, substantial citizens. He took an active part in surveying and laying out the county, and he was School Director there most of the time after moving there, and helped to organize the first school, and Mrs. Harrison has a distinct recollection of the building in which it was taught. He was a member of the Republican party after its formation, and used his influence to promote its interests. He had a large farm and did an extensive business as a stock-raiser until within a few years of his death, when he sold all but ten acres of his land, and lived quite a retired life for ten or fifteen years prior to his decease, which occurred in March, 1882. His first wife died when her daughter, Mrs. Harrison, was about six years old, and he married again. By his first marriage he had eleven children.

Mr. Harrison is a strong Republican in his political sentiments, and naturally takes a great interest in the welfare of his country, he being a loyal and patriotic citizen. He is a man of sound principles, is kind and considerate in his dealings with his neighbors, and in his family is a good husband and an indulgent father.



**J**OHN H. BRUCH, one of the most prosperous and enterprising farmers and stock-raisers of Pawnee County, was one of the very first settlers on the prairie where he now resides in Miles Precinct, and he is conceded to be the oldest citizen in point of settlement now living in this precinct. When he came here more than thirty years ago in the very prime of early manhood the

scene presented to his eyes was far different from that of to-day. He then saw this beautiful country almost fresh from the hands of nature, and looking forth on the undulating prairies, rolling away in the distance as far as the eye could see, he could scarce trace a sign of the civilizing influences that have transformed the State of Nebraska into a busy and prosperous commonwealth. It has not only been the good fortune of our subject to witness to some extent the reclamation of these vast prairies from their wild state, but to have been partly instrumental in bringing about this great change, in so far, at least, as to improve, by his own hard and well-directed labors, one of the finest farms in Pawnee County, pleasantly located on section 34, Miles Precinct.

Mr. Bruch was born in the town of Easton, on the Delaware River, in Northampton County, Pa., July 29, 1836. His father, likewise named John, was also a native of that county, his birth taking place Oct. 22, 1801. Frederick Bruch, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Bavaria, Germany, and there learned the trade of cooper. He migrated to this country, and locating in Northampton County, carried on coopering there, having a manufactory. He was married in Pennsylvania, and there died in 1849, at the age of seventy years. The father of our subject learned the cooper's trade of his father, and also carried on farming in Pennsylvania for many years. He was married in his native county to Miss Mary A. Hinkle, likewise born in Northampton County, the date of her birth being Oct. 11, 1811. Her paternal grandfather was a native of Holland, and coming to America he located in Philadelphia. He took part in the War of 1812. Her father, Joseph Hinkle, a native of the Quaker City, was a miller by occupation, and engaged in milling in Northampton County, on the Delaware and Lehigh Rivers, continuing there until he retired from business, at the age of eighty years. He spent the remainder of his life with his son in Ohio, where he died soon after, in 1859. He was a capable, worthy man, and a sound Jackson Democrat in his political views. In 1855 the father of our subject started with his family to make a home on the prairies of Iowa, and thus became a pioneer of Hardin County. He purchased 320 acres of



land, and began farming, but in June, 1856, his earthly career was suddenly cut short by a stroke of lightning, he at that time being fifty-three years of age. For several years the mother of our subject continued to live in Eldora, where she owned property, but she is now a beloved inmate of his household. She is a woman of fine Christian character, and an esteemed member of the Baptist Church. Her husband likewise belonged to that church, and was a Deacon and an exhorter in the same. He was a staunch Democrat in his political views. To them were born seven children, namely: James and Emma, who live in Hardin County, Iowa; Mary, who is dead; John; Della, who lives in Dakota; Cassey, in Chicago; and Harland P., in Washington Territory. James and Harland were soldiers in the late war. James enlisted in a Michigan cavalry regiment as bugler in 1861, was subsequently veteranized, and served throughout the entire war. Harland was in the regular cavalry, and in 1862 was sent against the Indians. In 1863 he went South, and served until the close of the war as a private.

John Bruch, of this biography, was reared on the Pennsylvania homestead which had been the place of his birth, receiving limited school advantages in the pay and district schools of the neighborhood. He was nineteen years of age when he accompanied his parents to their home in Hardin County, Iowa, and he remained there until he was twenty-three years of age, when he established himself in the same county in farming and stock-raising. He continued thus engaged until the fall of 1866, when he sought "green fields and pastures new" in the then Territory of Nebraska, making the journey with a team, and crossing the Missouri at Nebraska City. He immediately located on his present place, then comprising 160 acres of raw prairie land. He ran in debt \$1 for the homestead. He built a dug-out for the shelter of his family, but the following year replaced it by a more commodious log house. In the busy years that succeeded his settlement here he broke the soil, and made many valuable improvements. The second year he set out the first trees for a grove, comprising cottonwood and maples, freighting them between St. Joseph, Mo., and Pawnee City, and planted a hedge, and now has his

farm all hedged and cross fenced with wire. In 1880 he put up his present substantial and roomy residence, and he has erected barns, windmills, tanks, etc., having everything conveniently arranged to carry on agriculture to the best advantage. He now has a grove of ten acres of forest trees, and four acres of his land devoted to an orchard of 500 choice varieties of fruit trees. Mr. Bruch makes a specialty of hog raising, which he finds very profitable, and he has the full-blooded Poland-China hogs, of which he ships two carloads a year. He also buys and feeds cattle, and has a fine herd of graded Short-horns. He has fourteen head of blooded Clydes, using four teams with which to operate his farm. He also engages in the business of raising fruits of all kinds. He has sold forty acres of his homestead, and not having enough of his own land to carry out all his enterprises, he rents an additional 160 acres on the same section. He has met with rare success in his various undertakings, and is now numbered among the moneyed men of his neighborhood.

December 31, 1859, our subject and Miss Sarah Turner were united in the bonds of holy matrimony, in Marshalltown, Iowa, and of their happy union nine children have been born, namely: Mary, Charles (deceased), James, George, Oscar, Effie, Earl, Pearl (deceased) and Sadie. Mary is attending Doane College at Crete, Neb., is a member of the class of '89, and is fitting herself for the foreign mission work; Charles died while a student at Grinnell College, Iowa; James attended Doane College two years, and is at present engaged in teaching; Oscar is attending the academy at Pawnee City, and the other children are at home.

Mrs. Bruch is well educated, and is possessed in an eminent degree of the culture and refinement of a true lady. She was born in Mercer County, Pa., Nov. 1, 1841, and remained an inmate of the parental home until her marriage. Her parents were the Rev. Robert and Jane (Henry) Turner, who were also natives of Mercer County, Pa. Her paternal grandfather, who was at one time a farmer in Ohio, moved to the aforementioned county, and there carried on farming and fruit-raising until his death. Mrs. Bruch's maternal grandfather was of German descent and of American



birth. He was a farmer in Pennsylvania, and while on a visit to his daughter in Galesburg, Ill., died there, his wife dying in Pennsylvania. Mrs. Bruch's father was a minister. He taught school while prosecuting his studies, and was ordained at Andover, Ohio. He became a missionary in the Baptist Church, preaching in different places in Ashtabula County, Ohio. In 1851 he removed with his family to Henry County, Ill., and presided over different congregations there. In 1853 he crossed the Mississippi River, and took up his abode first in Hardin County, and then in Marshall County, Iowa. He remained in that State until 1864, when he came to Pawnee County, and located in West Branch Precinct, taking up a tract of land under the Homestead Act and improving a farm. He also continued active in the ministry, established a church on West Branch, and was also sent as a traveling missionary into Kansas. His good life was brought to a close Nov. 30, 1881, at the age of seventy years. His wife died in 1853, while yet in the prime of life, being only thirty-nine years of age. They were the parents of six children, as follows: Marquis, Sarah, Anna, Eliza, Mary and Henry. The Rev. Mr. Henry was married a second time, and of that marriage the following children were born: Catherine, Robert, William, Josie and Jennie, the last three being dead.

Mr. Bruch is a well-informed man, of more than ordinary intelligence and practical sagacity, and he has consequently been a potent influence for good in this community. He is a great worker in the cause of religion, and in him the Baptist Church has one of its most valued members. He has been connected with that denomination in the capacity of Deacon ever since he was nineteen years of age. He is now Deacon of the Baptist Church at Pawnee City, and is the only charter member now connected with it. He helped build the Sunday-school of that church, and was the first Superintendent of the first Sunday-school in this district. He has represented the church at the various associations since the church was organized. In regard to politics Mr. Bruch is a stalwart supporter of Republican principles, and his advice is esteemed in the councils of the party at county conventions at which he has been a delegate. He has borne a part

in the administration of local affairs, helped organize the precinct, has been a member of the School Board for eleven years, assisted in building the school-house, and at one time started a select school, and has in many ways contributed greatly to increase the educational advantages of the precinct. He was at one time Superintendent of Roads, and was active in securing good highways.



**D**R. JAMES E. HELMES, physician, surgeon and druggist, located in Burchard, is justly considered one of the leading members of his profession in Pawnee County, notwithstanding that he is comparatively young to have gained such eminence. He is well grounded in medicine, having given long and careful study to its various branches, and being a graduate of one of the best medical schools in the West, and by reading keeps himself well abreast of the times, and in his extensive practice since establishing himself here has won the confidence of the people by his successful treatment of difficult cases.

Our subject is a native of Luzerne County, Pa., born in the town of Blakeley, Oct. 15, 1856. His parents, Ziba and Phœbe (Helmès) Helmès, were natives respectively of Luzerne County, Pa., and of Steuben County, N. Y. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Helmès, was a lifelong resident of Pennsylvania. He was a wealthy farmer and owned a large farm. He lived to a venerable age, his life having been prolonged to its eighty-eighth year. The great-grandfather of our subject, who was born in Germany, came to this country some time during the eighteenth century, and when the Revolutionary War was being waged was a Tory, and sided against the Colonists in their struggle with the mother country. Samuel Helmès, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Pennsylvania, and after attaining manhood acted as Colonel in the Pennsylvania militia. He was a manufacturer and wholesale dealer of shoes, and continued in that business until his death, at the ripe old age of seventy-five, accumulating a large property.

The father of our subject was reared on a Penn-

sylvania farm. He engaged in agriculture and also managed a sawmill on the Lackawanna River. He married in New York, but continued to reside in Pennsylvania, working at the occupations mentioned until 1863, when he moved to Illinois. He engaged in farming in Grundy County, that State, and made his home there until his premature death at the age of forty-five, in 1876. In his demise, while yet in the prime of life, his community lost a valued citizen, he having been a man of stable character, of good mental gifts, wise and ready as a counselor, and a true friend to those about him. Of that marriage three children were born, namely: James E., Mattie J. and Jennie E. The mother of our subject continued to make her home in Illinois until 1880, when she removed to Johnson County, Neb., and married John P. Swallow, a coal and grain dealer in Burchard. She is an earnest and consistent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Our subject was a boy of nine years when he accompanied his parents to Illinois, and there the remaining years of his boyhood and youth were passed. He obtained the basis of a liberal education in the public schools of Grundy County, and in 1875 entered the Morris Classical Institute, where he pursued an excellent course of study for two years. His father having died in the meantime, when he left school he took charge of the home farm, and engaged in agriculture thereon until 1878. In that year he removed to Sterling, Johnson Co., Neb., but after a stay in that place of about a year, he went back to Illinois. He returned to Nebraska in a short time, in the spring of 1879, coming with a team. He bought a farm of eighty acres near Sterling, and lived with his mother while operating the farm, devoting his leisure time to the study of medicine with Dr. Shipman, of Sterling. In the winter seasons he taught school. In the winter of 1881-82 our subject attended the Keokuk Medical College, of Iowa, and in the spring of 1882 he took the post-graduate course in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Joplin, Mo., and was graduated from that institution. He then came to Burchard and established himself in his profession and has built up a large practice. He is a true gentleman and is very popular with all

classes, as he is always ready to respond to the calls of the suffering, whether they be poor or rich, and does all in his power to relieve them. In the fall of 1882 the Doctor opened a drug-store, and in 1883 bought his present building, increased his stock of goods, and now has a large assortment of goods and drugs. His office is in the store. The Doctor is a shrewd, practical business man, and has made considerable money since his settlement here, which he has invested judiciously, and has put some of it in town lots, showing his faith in the future of the town.

Dr. Helmes was married near Sterling, in 1879, to Miss Jennie M. Harris, and of their marriage one child has been born, Hazel. Mrs. Helmes was born in Iroquois County, Ill. Her parents were F. A. and Jane Harris. Mrs. Helmes was finely educated, and prior to her marriage was successfully engaged in teaching. She is a woman of rare character, who fills in a perfect measure the relations of wife, mother and friend. She is an exemplary member of the Presbyterian Church.

The Doctor is a conspicuous figure in political and social circles of Pawnee County. He is one of the leaders of the Republican party, and is influential in the County and State Conventions of his party, which he attends as delegate. In the fall of 1888 he was candidate for nomination to the Legislature. The Doctor is prominently identified with the I. O. O. F. in Burchard, and has passed through the various chairs. He is at present County Coroner, and is also examining physician for the Galesburg Life Insurance Company.



**A. ARNEAL.** Although this gentleman has been a resident of Plum Creek Precinct but five years he has already won his way to a conspicuous place among its representative citizens. He is the present Justice of the Peace of this place, and is a member of the School Board, and is a well-known figure in social and religious circles. He is one of the most enterprising and practical farmers in the precinct, and his farm on section 30, with its many valuable improvements, compares favorably with the best in the neighborhood. It is well



watered by Long Branch, and is neatly fenced with hedge and wire. There are groves and an orchard of 100 trees on it, the farm buildings are substantial and in good order. Although Mr. Arneal pays much attention to the culture of corn, he by no means neglects other branches of agriculture, and is very successful in raising cattle and horses, and hogs, all of good grades, and he keeps two teams of horses for his farm work.

Our subject comes of a mingled Irish and Scotch-Irish ancestry. His father, Thomas Arneal, was born in County Tyrone, Ireland. His grandfather, Alex Arneal, who was of Irish birth, emigrated from his native island to America in 1810, when the father of our subject was a lad of ten years. He located in Guernsey County, Ohio, in the township of Antrim. He was one of the first settlers in that place, and cleared a farm from the forests on Sugar Tree Forks, finally dying in that locality at the age of seventy-three. He gave the ground for the United Presbyterian Church in Antrim, and was an active member of the same. The father of our subject, coming to this country when a boy, grew to man's estate amid the pioneer influences of his father's forest home in Ohio. He received a very good education for the times, and acted as a schoolmaster at night for fifteen years. He established himself in the general merchandise business in Antrim, and carried it on with good financial success until 1850, and then being elected to the responsible position of County Treasurer, he sold out his business. He filled the office mentioned with so much satisfaction to his constituents that he was re-elected in 1852. In 1854 he bought a farm in that county, and was actively engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1862, when he disposed of his farming interests and retired to Cambridge to live on his income, free from care and toil the remaining years of his life, and there his death occurred in 1876, at the ripe old age of seventy-six years. He was a man of clear judgment, cool head, and so conducted public affairs and his own private interests as to inspire confidence in his ability and integrity. He was a sound Democrat in his political sentiments, and religiously, a member of the United Presbyterian Church, as was also his wife. He had the misfortune to lose

her companionship and assistance while she was yet in the prime of life, she dying in 1855, at the age of forty-three years. To them had been born four children: John P., deceased; T. A., Robert H. and Margaret J. John P. enlisted in 1861 in the 15th Ohio Infantry, Army of the West, and died in the hospital at Mumfordsville, Ky., in 1862.

The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Sarah Paxton, and she was born in Pennsylvania. Her father, John Paxton, who was of Scotch-Irish descent, moved from Pennsylvania to Harrison County, Ohio, at an early day, and located on a 160-acre tract of timber land in the township of Cadiz, and there died in 1850, at eighty years of age. He was a Presbyterian in religion, and a rank Abolitionist politically.

T. A. Arneal was born in Antrim, Ohio, Aug. 20, 1847. He received his education partly at Cambridge, Ohio, and remained an inmate of his father's home until he was sixteen years old, and then, inspired with youthful valor and patriotic love of country, he enlisted May 2, 1864, in Company D, 160th Ohio Infantry, under the command of Gens. Sigel and Sheridan, and was mustered in at Zanesville. He and his comrades were dispatched to the Shenandoah Valley, where they took part in the engagements at Cedar Creek, Maryland Heights, June 6, and skirmished up and down the valley under the gallant leadership of Phil Sheridan. Our subject did guard duty at Maryland Heights until Sept. 8, 1864, when his regiment was mustered out and honorably discharged at Zanesville. During his term of service Mr. Arneal, notwithstanding his boyish age, displayed the courage, coolness and patience of a veteran in the face of the enemy, and his military record is one in which he and his family may take a just pride. After leaving the army our subject returned to his father's home, and resumed his studies that had been so interrupted, and continued his attendance at school until he was twenty years of age, thus securing a liberal education. After that he came to Nebraska, performing the entire journey with a team. He took up a homestead of 160 acres on Turkey Creek. In 1869 he left his land and went back to Ohio, where he engaged in farming on rented land, continuing there until the spring of 1878, when he removed to



Cedar County, and located near Clarence, and was actively engaged in agriculture until the spring of 1884. At that time he came to his present place of residence in Plum Creek Precinct. There are in his farm 160 acres of exceedingly fertile soil, and our subject has completed the improvements begun before his purchase.

Mr. Arneal has been twice married, the first time in Cambridge, Ohio, Aug. 30, 1871, to Miss Margaret Mackey. She was born in Cambridge, Aug. 1, 1847, and died Feb. 15, 1876, leaving many friends, in whose hearts her kind disposition had won her a warm place to sorrow with her family in their loss. Of that union three children were born—Luella M., Albert H. and Elmer J., the latter two being twins. Elmer is in Cambridge, Ohio; the others are at home.

Mr. Arneal was married to his present estimable wife, formerly Miss Agnes M. Duff, in Muskingum County, Ohio, Jan. 8, 1878. Mrs. Arneal is a lady in every way, is a good housekeeper, and cordially seconds her husband's bounteous hospitality. Her parents are William and Julia (Paul) Duff, natives of Ohio. Her paternal grandfather, David Duff, was born in Pennsylvania, and was of Irish descent. He moved to Muskingum County, Ohio, in the early years of its settlement, and there spent the rest of his life, engaging in farming until his death in 1865. Andrew Paul, Mrs. Arneal's maternal grandfather, was a native of Ireland, and coming to America, located in Belmont County, Ohio. He subsequently moved to Guernsey County, the same State, and farmed there until 1859, when he went to Scott County, Iowa, where he died. Mrs. Arneal's father was a farmer in Muskingum County. In the fall of 1885 he sold his property in Ohio, and coming to this State with his family, is now living in retirement in Pawnee City. He is sixty-five years old, and his wife is sixty-three. They are devoted members of the United Presbyterian Church, and lead exemplary lives. They have eight children, namely: David K. (deceased), Agnes M., Jane, Eliza M., Andrew P., Sadie A., Clarissa, and James W. (deceased.) The marriage of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of five children, as follows: Annie M., William C., Jessie A., Robert B. and

John F. Mrs. Arneal was born in Sago, Muskingum Co., Ohio, Aug. 1, 1850, and there she grew to maturity. After reaching womanhood she was engaged in business in Bloomfield, Ohio, as a dress-maker and milliner until her marriage.

Mr. Arneal is a man of unexceptional habits and high principles, and he has had the confidence of the people among whom he has come to make his home from the very first. He is connected with the G. A. R., belonging to W. A. Butler Post No. 172, at Burchard. He is influential in local politics, giving his support to the Republican party, and has been a delegate to County and State Conventions. Both he and his wife are active members of the United Presbyterian Church at Liberty, of which he is an Elder, and has been so ever since he was twenty-four years old.

 **G**EORGE BUSH. The farming and stock-raising interests of Pawnee County have recognized Mr. Bush as one of their most industrious and successful representatives. In the prosecution of his calling he has accumulated a good property, and forms one of the solid factors among the most important interests of this section. He was born near the city of Bristol, in Gloucestershire, England, Nov. 23, 1829, and is the son of Thomas Bush, who for many years was occupied as a book-keeper for one of the most extensive coal companies in his county.

The early life of young Bush was spent in his native place with his parents, whose family consisted of two sons and one daughter. The mother in her girlhood was Miss Hannah Colburn. George was the second child, and the family lived a number of years on a small piece of land one and a half miles from the coal works. He was subjected to careful home training, and pursued his studies for a time in a select school. He remained a member of the parental family until twenty-three years of age, and was then married to Miss Elizabeth Sheppard, who, like himself, was a native of Bristol, and the daughter of Thomas Sheppard. They lived for a short time in their native county, our subject making arrangements to start for America.

Mr. Bush in the spring of 1856 gathered together his little family, and, bidding adieu to the friends and associations of his youth, set sail on the long voyage across the Atlantic to seek a home in the New World. They made but a brief sojourn after landing in New York City, migrating directly northwestward to Wisconsin, and settling on a small farm of forty acres in Dodge County. Much of this was timber, and Mr. Bush cleared a considerable portion of it, bringing the soil to a good state of cultivation.

Our subject, however, was destined to a great affliction, as his wife died the year following his settlement in Wisconsin, leaving one child three days old. This child, a daughter, was named Elizabeth, became the wife of John E. Beck, and is now deceased. Mr. Bush five years later was married a second time, to Harriet J., eldest daughter of Alonzo and Hannah C. (Ayres) Mace. This lady was born Feb. 11, 1828, and removed with her parents to Dodge County, Wis. Mr. and Mrs. Mace were from New York State. By a former husband Mrs. Bush became the mother of one daughter, but of her union with our subject there are no children. Her daughter, Cornelia A., is the wife of Benjamin Horton, and they live near Table Rock, in this county.

In the fall of 1863 Mr. Bush came to this county, settling first on a tract of land south of Pawnee City, where he lived three years, then removed to his present farm of 160 acres, the first eighty acres of which he obtained by entering from the Government, and the second eighty by homesteading. He has twenty acres of timber, and the balance of his land has been brought to a good state of cultivation. He has a substantial farm dwelling, which was erected at a time when material was very costly, and had to be hauled a long distance. Adjacent to this are the barns and other structures necessary for his convenience. There are fruit trees and the other accessories which assist in the completion of the modern homestead.

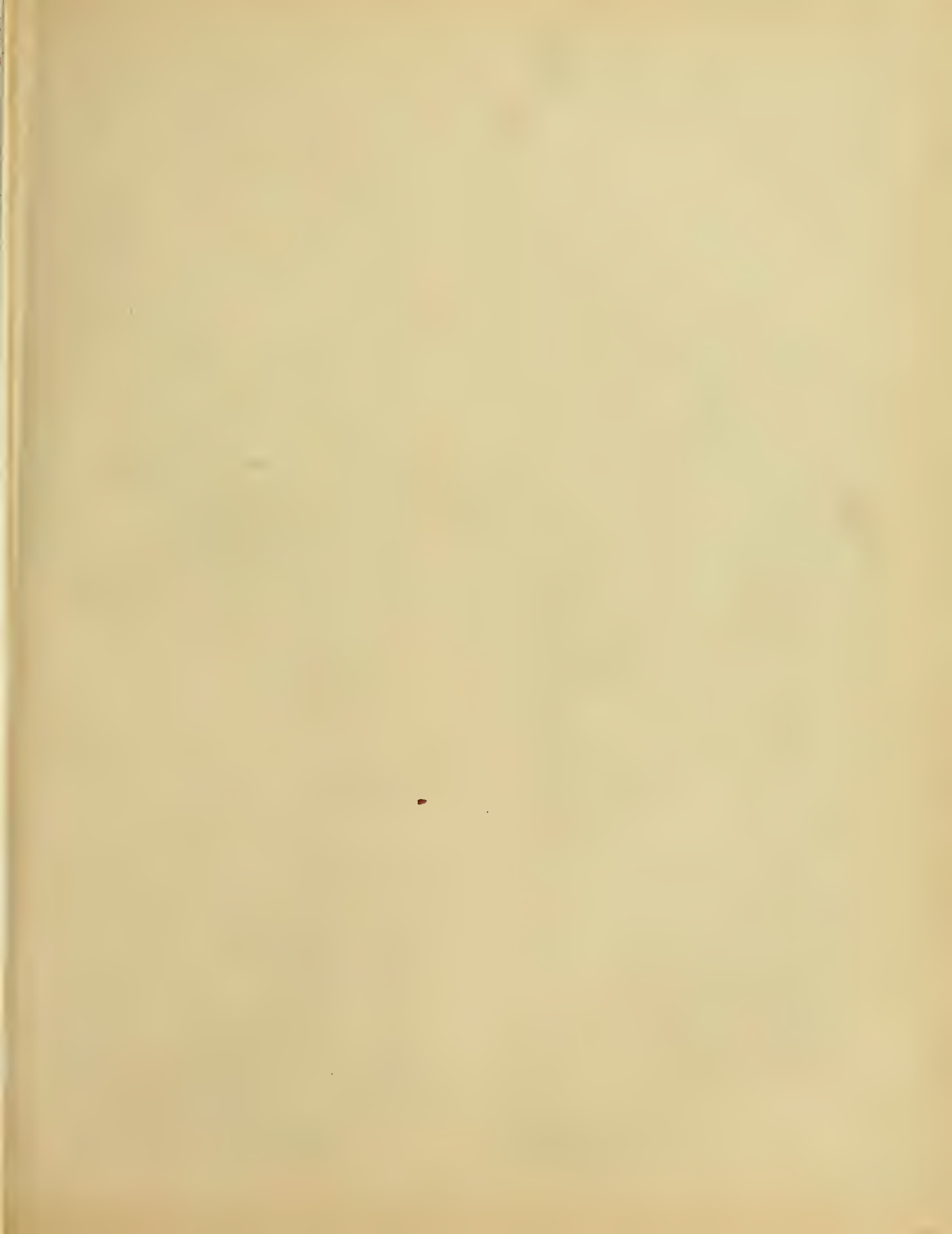
Of late years Mr. Bush has turned his attention considerably to stock-raising, making a specialty of cattle and swine, the former of a high-grade breed, and the latter high-grade Poland-China. He is a man who has, in the midst of many cares

and labors, borne in mind the interests of his adopted county, and given his support to the enterprises calculated for the good of her people. He began without means or other resources than his own indomitable energy, and it would seem that he might look upon the results of his labors with abundant satisfaction. He votes the straight Republican ticket, having been an adherent of this party since its organization. Aside from serving as a member of the School Board he has carefully avoided the responsibilities of office.

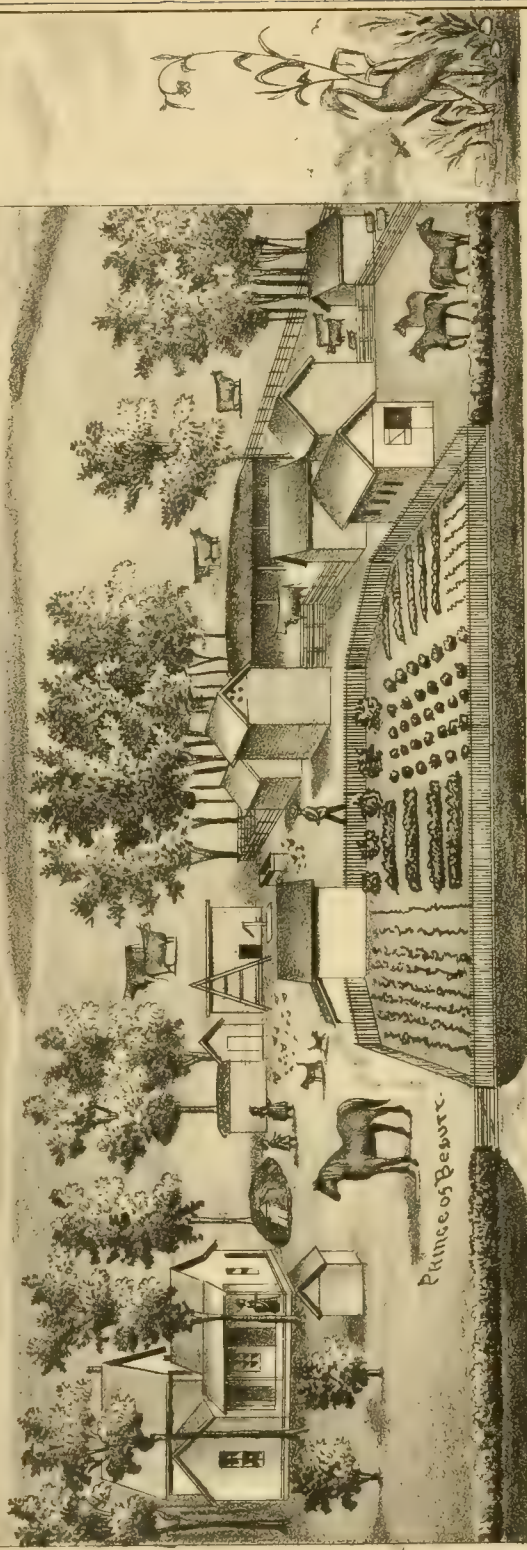
The father of Mrs. Bush was an extensive farmer and land-owner, being the proprietor of three farms in New York State. He departed this life at his home, in December, 1863. The mother is still living, making her home with her youngest daughter, Mrs. Hiram Cora, of Michigan, and is now in the eighty-sixth year of her age. To her and her husband there were born six children, namely: Sarah, who died at the age of twelve years; Henry, Harriet J., John L., Amanda and Charlotte.

JOSEPH K. GOUDY is numbered among the leading attorneys of Pawnee City. He was born near the city of Springfield, Clarke Co., Ohio, April 28, 1851, and was the youngest in a family of twelve children, eight sons and four daughters, seven of whom survive. Thomas B. Goudy, the father of our subject, was also a native of the Buckeye State, and married Miss Nancy P. Kirkpatrick, of the same. William Goudy, the paternal grandfather, was one of the pioneers of Clarke County, and traced his ancestry to Scotland. The Kirkpatricks were of equally good stock, being Scotch-Irish. Grandfather Goudy made good headway as a tiller of a portion of the soil of Ohio in its primitive days, and there his bones were laid to rest.

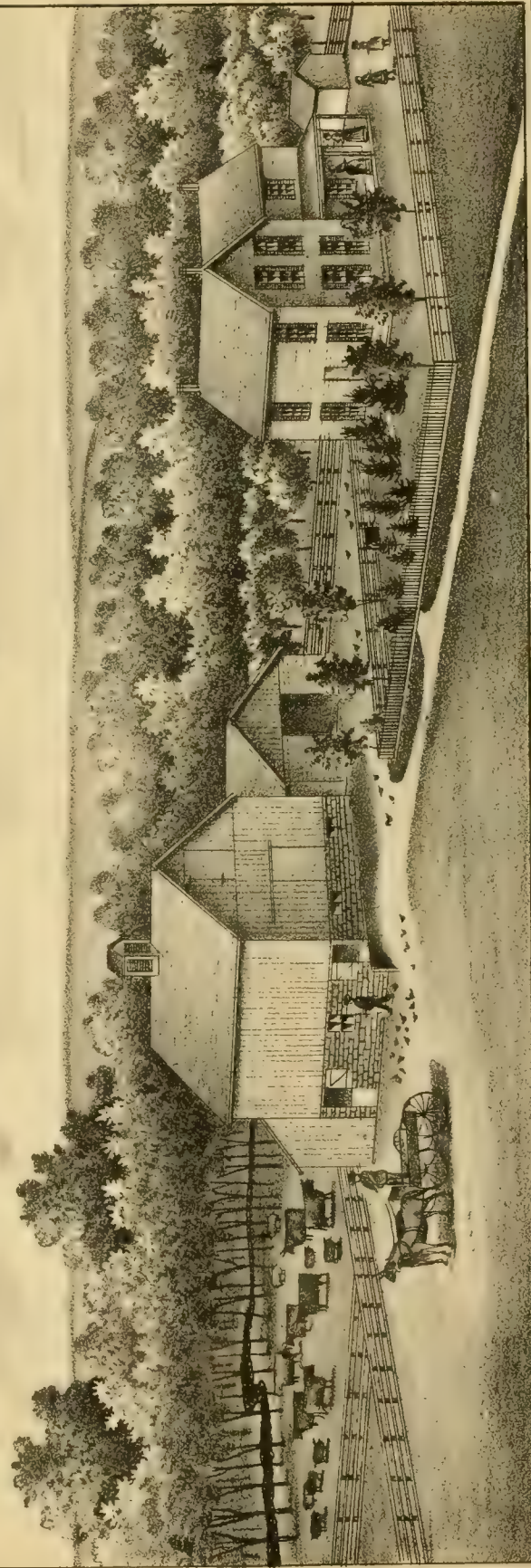
Thomas B. Goudy, the father of our subject, also followed agriculture during his early years in his native county of Adams, removing thence to Clarke County in 1811. There he was married to Miss Kirkpatrick, and they lived in Clarke County until 1854. We next find them in Warren County, Ill., where they sojourned until 1883, when they crossed







Residence of W.A. Frank, Sec. 13, Table Rock Precinct.



Residence of J.W. Rees, Sec. 20, Mission Creek Precinct.



the Father of Waters and took up their abode in Pawnee City, this county, where his death took place in February, 1885. The mother died at the home of Dr. Sterrett, in the city of Philadelphia, Pa.

The subject of this sketch pursued his early studies in the district schools of Warren County, Ill., and later entered Monmouth College, of which he was a student three years. Thereafter he was occupied as a teacher several years. Later he took charge of Freedman's College in Vicksburg, Miss., sojourning there until 1873. We next find him in Shelbyville, Tenn., as Professor of Mathematics in Bedford Seminary. A year later he entered the law office of Stewart & Ralston, in St. Louis, Mo., and after a year's residence there returned to Monmouth, Ill. In the latter place he was tendered the position of Principal of the High School, which position he held three years, and was Professor of Mathematics in the academy one year. Afterward he read law two years with John T. Morgan, the Register in Bankruptcy. The latter was afterward appointed Chief Justice of Idaho Territory. He was removed from this office by the Cleveland administration.

Upon leaving Monmouth the second time Mr. Goudy repaired to Beardstown, Ill., where he became Principal of the public schools, conducting these as such four years, and still pursuing his law studies as time and opportunity permitted. He was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court in November, 1880, and, soon afterward emigrating to the farther West, established himself in Pawnee City, where he has since devoted his exclusive attention to his law practice.

In Monmouth, Ill., Mr. Goudy was wedded, in August, 1872, to Miss Ella R., daughter of Col. W. D. Henderson, an old and prominent citizen of Warren County. Mrs. Goudy was born Nov. 16, 1850, in Mercer County, Ill., and of her union with our subject there are six children, one son and five daughters. They were named respectively: Frank R., Maude, Hallie, Lucy D., Helen G. and Joe.

Mr. Goudy is recognized as a man of more than ordinary ability, and in 1880 was appointed Supervisor of the Census. In 1886 he was elected County Attorney, and the year following was made City

Attorney, being reappointed to this latter office in 1888. He occupies a good position socially and financially, is a decided Republican in politics, and, in religious matters, a member of the United Presbyterian Church.



**W. REES.** Prominent among the young farmers of Mission Creek Precinct, who are assiduously devoting themselves with marked success to the maintenance of the extensive agricultural interests of Pawnee County, is the subject of this sketch. His farm on section 20, Mission Creek Precinct, is classed as one of the best farms in this part of the country, and among its many valuable improvements are a large and roomy residence and a commodious barn.

Our subject is a son of one of Pawnee County's pioneers, his father, Christian Rees, who lives with him, coming here at an early day, and buying this farm of the Government, developing it from the wild prairie, and as his son assisted him in bringing it to its present high state of cultivation, although he was a mere lad when he came here, he may also be styled a pioneer.

The father is a native of Nassau, Germany, his birth taking place Jan. 5, 1830. His father, Matthias Rees, was a native of the same place, where he carried on farming and also held the position of overseer of the forest lands. He died in the Fatherland in 1851, at the age of fifty-eight years. His wife, whose maiden name was Annice Itain, also a native of Nassau, died in 1844, at the age of forty-nine years. Michael Rees, the great-grandfather of our subject, was a wealthy farmer in his native Germany, and owned a large estate. Christian Rees began life as a farmer in Germany, but when he was twenty-three years of age he emigrated to America, in 1853, embarking at Antwerp on the sailing-vessel "Ashland." He came very near not reaching the promised land, as the ship was wrecked in the English Channel, and he had a very narrow escape from drowning. He finally succeeded in crossing the ocean, and landing in New York, proceeded to Lawrenceburg, Ind., and thence went to

Greenup County, Ky., and was there married, March 10, 1855, to Miss Mary E. Miller. She was born in Aargau, Switzerland, Dec. 1, 1835, a daughter of Rudolph Miller, a native of the same country. He was a farmer and owned a large farm. He took part in the Swiss Revolution of 1848. In 1854 he emigrated from the land of his nativity with his family, and located in Portsmouth, Ohio. He was there employed as a day laborer until his removal to Greenup County, where he worked in an iron foundry. Later he went to DeKalb County, Ill., becoming an early settler thereof in 1858. He bought land there, improved it, and is still actively engaged in farming his homestead, notwithstanding his advanced age, he being seventy-eight years old. His wife, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Leischer, was born in Switzerland seventy-two years ago. She and her husband are devoted members of the Evangelical Methodist Episcopal Church. Rudolph Miller, the maternal great-grandfather of our subject, was a wealthy farmer of Switzerland. He was a soldier in the Swiss Revolution, and died in 1847, at the age of fifty-one years.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Rees, the parents of our subject, removed to DeKalb County, Ill., and two years later found them in LaSalle County, the same State. Mr. Rees began farming there, buying a tract of land, and besides cultivating the soil raised stock in that section of the country until 1870, when he sold out his property in Illinois and came to Pawnee County, and since that time has been identified with its agricultural interests. He bought 160 acres of Government land on Mission Creek, which forms the farm now managed by himself and son, and in the busy years that followed his settlement on it made numerous valuable improvements, he being a skillful and industrious farmer. Both parents make their home with their son of whom we write, he being their only living child. Their daughter Emma became the wife of J. E. Blair, and died in Colorado, Jan. 29, 1881, and her remains were brought home for burial.

Our subject was born in the city of Chicago, Ill., March 18, 1858. He was quite young when his parents settled in LaSalle County, and there a part of his boyhood was passed on a farm. He was twelve years old when the family came to Nebraska,

coming from Henry, Ill., on the Illinois Central Railway to St. Louis, thence up the Missouri River to Atchison, Kan., and from there they drove to this place with a team. He had good school advantages, and being an intelligent, wide-awake lad, he made good use of his time to gain an education. After coming here he was of great assistance to his father in breaking the prairie, and was kept busy tilling the soil. He subsequently went into partnership with his father, and the farm is now in a fine condition, with hedge and wire fences, a new house, barns, etc., and the land under admirable tillage. The Messrs. Rees do general farming and pay much attention to raising fine grades of stock. Their cattle are of the Short-horn breed, and they also buy and feed cattle. They have likewise eight head of graded Clyde horses.

Our subject was married to Miss Sophia Mollet, in Pawnee City, Nov. 19, 1884. She was born in St. Louis, Mo., June 11, 1866, to Edward and Mary (Gruby) Mollet. Her father was born in West Baden and her mother in Hesse-Darmstadt, Germany. They were married in America, and after marriage located for awhile in St. Louis, where Mr. Mollet was engaged as a confectioner, which business he carried on in Washington, where he was married, and in other places, and at last opened a confectioner's shop in Chicago, Ill., where he died soon after the great fire, his death occurring in 1873. Mrs. Rees's mother, who is a woman of much ability and force of character, worked her own way. She finally removed to Nebraska, and bought the hotel at Burchard, which is run on the European plan. She is an earnest follower of the Catholic religion, and is now fifty-two years old. She has two children living, Minnie and Sophia. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of two children, Emma E. and Fred R.

Mr. Rees is a man of much enterprise, and is influential in public affairs, discharging with characteristic faithfulness and ability the responsible offices that have been entrusted to him. He is a member of the School Board, was Justice of the Peace two years, and is Supervisor of Roads. He is an active member of the German Evangelical Synod in Gage County, Neb., and his father is a charter member of the church. The latter is a firm Repub-



lican, while our subject is identified with the Union Labor party. He is an intelligent member of the Grange. Mrs. Rees is a very amiable lady, and cordially seconds the hospitality of her husband, and carefully looks after the comfort of her visitors.

The grandfather of Mrs. Rees was compelled to leave France with the Huguenots under the penalty of death if they remained in France. Mrs. Rees has changed her membership from the Catholic Church to the Evangelical Synod, or society, and worships with her husband. On another page we give a fine lithographic view of the residence of Mr. Rees.



**W**ILLIAM A. FRANK. Pawnee County contains its full quota of young men who fill divers and honorable positions in the various departments of life. It is the purpose of this sketch to introduce to the reader such a one, who has carved out for himself financial prosperity, and attained to a position which reflects great credit upon his perseverance, while his natural abilities have made of this perhaps a task less tedious than to many others. A native of the Fatherland, he was born in Prussia, Oct. 13, 1860, and when a lad of six years was brought by his parents to America. His father settled upon a tract of land from which has been built up the present homestead of our subject, and where William A. has spent the greater part of his life.

Godtfried Frank, the father of our subject, is a native of the same Province as his son, and of pure German ancestry. He came to this country equipped with the substantial qualities inherited from his forefathers, and proved to be one of the men most needed in the development of a new country. He began at first principles in the construction of a homestead, settling upon a tract of land upon which there were no improvements whatever. He planted fruit and forest trees, and the first year of his residence here began the building of a house, which was not entirely finished until 1881. It then was more than ordinarily convenient

and substantial, and makes a most comfortable dwelling for the family. The elder Frank was a man of intelligence, believing in the establishment and maintenance of schools, and assisted in organizing the school district of his neighborhood, and was one of its first officers. He was also active in the building of the first bridges in the precinct, and although a man well qualified to hold official positions, steadily declined becoming an officeholder. At the time of his arrival in America he was a man of forty years, having been born in 1826.

The parents of our subject were married in their native Province, the mother being in her girlhood Miss Minnie Wartenburg. In Germany there were born to them four children, two of whom died before the emigration to America. The child living besides our subject is his sister Eliza, now the wife of Mr. Gottfried Burow, now living in Table Rock Precinct; they are the parents of eight children. Godtfried Frank and his excellent wife are still living at the old homestead.

The Frank family in the pioneer days suffered the usual hardships of life in a new settlement, their nearest markets and trading-posts being at Brownville and Nebraska City. They distinguished themselves as people courteous, obliging and hospitable, and are highly spoken of by all who know them.

Our subject assisted his parents around the homestead during his boyhood and youth, becoming familiar with farm pursuits, and acquiring his education in the common school. When ready to establish domestic ties of his own, he was united in marriage with Miss Arcelia Hall, the wedding taking place in Pawnee City, July 5, 1881.

Mrs. Arcelia (Hall) Frank was born in Missouri, Jan. 17, 1859, and came with her parents to Nebraska when a small child. The latter were Charlton and Zuritha (Plaster) Hall, and they are now residents of Humboldt. Mr. Hall was born in Springfield, Ill., in 1828, and lived there until his marriage with Miss Plaster. Two years later they moved to the vicinity of Watson, Mo., and subsequently crossed the river into Brownville, Neb. They lived there twelve years, and then came to Richardson County, settling first one and one-half miles northeast of the residence of Mr. Frank. The

father, taking up 160 acres of land, labored as a tiller of the soil until retiring from the active duties of life. He is now living with his estimable wife at a pleasant home in Humboldt. Theo. Hall, a brother of Mrs. Frank, is a well-to-do farmer of Table Rock Precinct, and the family is generally respected as representing the solid and reliable element of the community. The parental household included ten children, eight of whom are living, making their homes mostly in Nebraska. Mrs. Hall was also a native of Illinois, and born in 1830.

Mr. Frank, in his first farming operations, devoted his labors mainly to the raising of grain, but finally found that the breeding of live stock was likely to be a more profitable industry, and to this he has given his attention of late years. Father and son worked together in this direction, and dealt largely in full-blooded registered stock. They make a specialty of Chester-White swine, which they were the first to introduce in this precinct, and one of their most important purchases was obtained from the noted firm of L. B. Silver & Co., of Cleveland, Ohio, the Franks paying \$65 for two young pigs. From that beginning they have realized fine results. This breed of swine is claimed to be exempt from cholera. The Franks have also some fine horses and cattle. Our subject has thus made a fine beginning toward a competency, and is looked upon as one of the future men of influence in this part of the county.

To William and Arcelia Frank there have been born two children: Florence May, Dec. 8, 1882, and Ernest, Feb. 24, 1885. Our subject and his little family occupy an addition to the old family residence, and are surrounded with all the comforts of life. William A. Frank is owner of a fine draft stallion of excellent blood, one-half Red-Eye, and one-half Clyde, which was brought from Illinois. He is a handsome cherry bay, sixteen hands high, weighing 1,200 pounds, and of fine symmetrical proportions. His sire was considered by many one of the best stock horses in Illinois, taking as many as 151 premiums at the various fairs where he was on exhibition. Mr. Frank is also the owner of a blooded mare of fine points, and has several blooded colts of different ages. There are indications that in the near future he will attain an enviable repu-

tation in the live-stock line, being a fine judge of horses and swine especially. In politics he is a staunch Republican.

The fine, comfortable home of the Franks is shown on another page.

**B**ENJAMIN H. FULLER, Treasurer of Pawnee County, and having his headquarters at Pawnee City, arrived upon the soil of Nebraska in June, 1866, and homesteaded 160 acres of land on West Branch, ten miles southwest of the city. Upon this he effected considerable improvement and it still remains his property. In the meantime, as a man of more than ordinary intelligence and value as a citizen, he made such good headway in the opinions of the people of this county that after filling other positions of trust and responsibility, he was, in the spring of 1879, elected Sheriff. He served acceptably the two terms, four years in all, and was then made Cashier of the Bank of Burchard, which position he filled eighteen months. In 1885 he was elected County Treasurer, and re-elected in 1887, still holding the position.

A New Englander by birth and training, our subject was born in St. Johnsbury, Vt., May 12, 1828. He was the youngest child and only son in a family of five children, the offspring of Benjamin and Sarah (Abbott) Fuller. The father was also a native of Vermont and a hatter by trade. The mother was the daughter of William Abbott, and was born and reared to womanhood in New Hampshire. The parents after their marriage settled in Vermont, and the father met his death by drowning in 1836, when Benjamin H., our subject, was a little lad eight years of age.

Young Fuller, the year following the death of his father, practically started out in life for himself, working among the people of his neighborhood at whatever he could find to do, and attending school during the winter season. He continued a resident of his native State until a young man of twenty-two years, then set out for California and occupied himself in mining until the summer of 1854. He then started back on the long journey



to Vermont, and engaged in farming three years, after which he entered a gristmill, where he worked until after the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted in Company K, 3d Vermont Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and participated in many of the important battles fought by that division, being at Williamsburg, Spottsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and in all fought in fourteen battles, receiving only one slight wound and escaping capture by the rebels. He was also elected Captain of Company B, 3d Vermont Infantry. His regiment formed a part of the 6th Army Corps and was mostly under the command of Gen. Sedgwick. At the close of the war Mr. Fuller received his honorable discharge at Burlington, Vt., in July, 1865, and in October following started again for the West and settled in Marshall County, Iowa, where he engaged in farming for a number of years. His next removal was to Nebraska Territory.

Mr. Fuller was married, in March, 1855, to Miss Isabelle B. Harvey, of Barnet, Vt., daughter of Claude Harvey, of the same State. Mrs. Fuller accompanied her husband to the West, and they now occupy a pleasant home in Pawnee City, where they have made many friends. They have a bright and interesting family of six children, who are named respectively: Frank B., Claude H., Mary E., Louie L., William A. and Jennie P. Mr. Fuller, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and socially, is a member of the G. A. R. He has been identified with the Presbyterian Church for the last twenty-two years. A peaceful and law-abiding citizen, he represents the solid element of his community, and is held in general respect.



**P**HILLIP GOIN, one of the successful farmers of Plum Creek Precinct, also one of its oldest settlers, is a man of excellent business ability, and as a citizen of no mean prominence, has energetically contributed his share toward the material, educational, moral and religious advancement of this part of Pawnee County. He was born near Tazewell, Claiborne Co., Tenn., Aug. 15, 1846, and his father, Sterling Goin, was

also a native of the same county. Levi Goin, the grandfather of subject, an American-born citizen of Irish descent, was an early settler of Tennessee, and was numbered among the well-to-do farmers of his time in Claiborne County, and there he died in 1863, when he was over eighty years old. His son Sterling was reared on his farm, and after attaining man's estate he married Mary Keek, who was a native of the same county as himself. After marriage the father of our subject continued on the old homestead, buying the heirs out, and was for many years extensively engaged in farming and stock-raising. In 1886 he sold the old place and turned his attention to hotel-keeping in Tazewell, Tenn., where he is now living at the age of seventy years. He is a man of great force, and is highly respected in his neighborhood. His estimable wife closed her eyes to the scenes of earth while yet scarcely past the prime of life, dying Dec. 22, 1868, when forty-five years old. She was, with her husband, an active member of the Baptist Church. He is a staunch Republican in politics. To them sixteen children were born, as follows: John (dead), Anne, Rachel (dead), J. K., Phillip, Levi, Jasper, Sarah, Catherine, Rebecca, Mary, William, Howard, Proctor, Charity, and an infant who died. J. K. was in the same regiment as our subject, enlisting in 1863 and serving until after the close of the war.

Our subject passed his early days on his father's farm, and even in his youth evinced strong patriotism and love of his country, by enlisting, at the age of eighteen, in 1864, from a Southern State, in defense of the stars and stripes, becoming a member of Company B, 1st Tennessee Light Artillery, and was mustered into the Army of the Tennessee at Cumberland Gap, under Capt. Beebee. His regiment was sent on a scouting expedition on horseback, and had a skirmish with Esteson. Our subject and his comrades were then sent to Strawberry Plains to do guard duty. From there they were dispatched to Nashville, Tenn., where they remained until after the close of the war, being mustered out and honorably discharged in July, 1865. During his term of service our subject showed rare soldierly qualities spite of his youth and inexperience. After leaving the army Mr. Goin returned to his old Tennessee home, and managed the farm for awhile



until he was twenty years old, when he married and began farming for himself. He continued thus actively engaged in Tennessee until the spring of 1869, when he decided to try farming in a new country, and selecting Nebraska as possessing in an eminent degree many desirable advantages of climate, fertile soil, etc., he came by rail to Ash Point, Kan., and thence by team to Pawnee County. He immediately took up a 160-acre tract of wild prairie land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and became almost the first settler on the prairie. He built a dug-out, in which to live until he could erect a log house, and then set about the task of preparing his land for cultivation, breaking the prairie with oxen mostly, hedged his land and set up groves. He engaged in farming and stock-raising there for some years, with varying success, his nearest markets being Beatrice, Neb., and Marysville, Kan. He had to undergo many trials, among the worst of which was the grasshopper siege, as those insects destroyed his crops and nearly eat him out of house and home. In the spring of 1878 Mr. Goin sold his old homestead and bought a farm of 160 acres on the adjacent section 31, which was partly improved. With characteristic energy he has since made many other needed improvements and has greatly increased the value of his farm. He set out twelve acres of orchard, consisting of 800 trees of choice fruit. He has about forty acres of native forest trees, and the farm being well watered by Plum Creek, is a very suitable place for stock-raising, indeed, is considered one of the best places in the precinct, and our subject takes great delight in that branch of agriculture and he feeds cattle. He has sixty head of graded stock, and a fine herd of hogs, and eight head of blooded Clyde and draft horses, having three teams to operate his farm. In 1882 he bought forty acres more land, adjoining his homestead on the same section, and he also has a lease of forty acres of school land in Gage County. He has his farm fenced with hedge and wire, and has many valuable improvements, good dwellings, barns, etc.

Mr. Goin was married in Claiborne County, Tenn., to Miss Elendear Bollinger, Sept. 22, 1866. She was a native of that county, born at Tazewell, Feb. 7, 1847. She died in her husband's home in

Nebraska, Dec. 14, 1887, leaving besides her bereaved family many friends to mourn the loss of a woman of kindly heart, considerate ways, and many other good qualities. The following is the record of the children born to her and her husband: James Sterling, born in Tennessee, Nov. 8, 1867; Esau, born in Nebraska, Dec. 13, 1869, died Nov. 27, 1871; Florence M., born Aug. 24, 1871; Emmeline, born April 22, 1874; Matilda, born Feb. 7, 1876; Hugh, born Aug. 23, 1877; Irving, born Jan. 7, 1879, died Feb. 27, 1879; Proctor, born June 5, 1880; Andrew, born April 1, 1882; Lioneal, born May 27, 1884; Victor, born Feb. 17, 1886, died Jan. 1, 1887; Clyde, born Dec. 7, 1887. They are all at home.

Mr. Goin has proved an invaluable citizen since his settlement here in pioneer days, and has always used his influence to preserve law and order. In his political views he is a straight Republican, sincerely believing the policy of that party to be the best in the guidance of National affairs. He is connected with Berry Post No. 159, G. A. R., at Liberty. He has interested himself in educational affairs, and was instrumental in organizing this precinct into a district, and served on the School Board with great efficiency for three years. He is one of the leading members of the Baptist Church at Liberty, helped to build the church and is Treasurer of the society. Mr. Goin is much interested in the manufacture of sorghum, and raises seven or eight acres of cane every year, from which he makes about a thousand gallons, using Cook's Evaporator.

FRANCIS E. WASHBURN. The best indication of a man's character is his standing and reputation among his neighbors and fellow-citizens. We look for no further proof of his reliability than the fact that he is well spoken of by those whom he has lived beside for a term of years. These remarks are properly applied to the subject of this sketch, a man who has seen much of life, and who from an interesting and varied experience, has learned well. He is the owner of a good farm property which forms one of the pleas-

antest homes in Sheridan Precinct, of which he was one of the early settlers. The farm is pleasantly located and occupies a portion of section 30, township 2, range 12.

Mr. Washburn set foot upon the soil of Nebraska first in January, 1874. He came here as a printer by trade, at which he worked in Pawnee City until August, 1877, in the office of the *Republican*, with the exception of six weeks, when he was off on a vacation. Later he connected himself with the *Enterprise*, remaining with it from its first establishment until January, 1880, then determined to change his occupation, and sought the rural districts. He had purchased land, Oct. 29, 1874, and two years later put up a dwelling in Gothic style of architecture, which he has occupied since September, 1875. In the spring of 1880 he put in his first crops. He makes a specialty of live stock, utilizing in this direction most of the grain which is raised upon his land.

A native of Pennsylvania, Mr. Washburn was born at Eldred, McKean County, April 13, 1848. Two years later his parents moved across the line into Cattaraugus County, N. Y., where he spent his boyhood days and acquired a practical education in the common schools. His business career began as the employe of a lumbering company on the Allegheny River, but this not being congenial to his tastes he entered the office of the *Olean Times*, where he continued from the spring of 1868 until the fall of the year following. Thence he went into the office of the *Buffalo Post*, where he spent the winter following, then returned home. In August, 1870, he started for the West, passing through Chicago to Aurora, Ill., where he became an attache of the *Herald* office. After the great fire he returned to Chicago and became connected with the *Times*, in its temporary office on Adams street.

From the Garden City Mr. Washburn now struck out for the farther West, and we next find him in Kansas in the office of the *Atchison Patriot*, where he worked eighteen months, and during the Greeley campaign. He next went into the *Champion* office, but after a short time, desirous of seeing more of the Western country, started out through the Solomon Valley in the fall of 1873, riding a pony. He

sojourned for awhile at Blue Rapids, then returned to Atchison, and from there migrated to Pawnee City. Since that time he has been a resident of this county.

The wedded life of Mr. Washburn commenced Oct. 18, 1874, when he was united in marriage with Miss Florence A. Whaley, in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Pawnee City. Soon afterward they took up their abode at their present homestead. Mrs. Washburn was born March 31, 1856, in Kalamazoo County, Mich., and came with her father, John Whaley, to this State in 1864. Of the latter a sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Of this union there were born four children, two of whom are deceased. These were twins; one died in early infancy, and the other at the age of fourteen months. The elder daughter living, Julia A., was born Aug. 11, 1878, and Eva L., March 20, 1881. Mr. and Mrs. Washburn are consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Pawnee City, and earnest workers in the Sunday-school.

Reuben S. B. Washburn, the father of our subject, was born in Ovid, Seneca Co., N. Y., Sept. 18, 1815, where he lived until approaching manhood. There he was married to Miss Julia A. Stewart, and they became the parents of nine children, seven of whom lived to mature years. The eldest son died in Richmond, Va., a prisoner of war, Dec. 2, 1863. The family about 1844 removed to Pennsylvania, but finally returned to New York State, settling in Cattaraugus County, where the father engaged in farming and lumbering combined. During the later years of his life he was afflicted with blindness, and died Nov. 23, 1865, at the age of fifty years. The devoted wife and mother kept her children together until they were grown, and is still living, making her home with her daughter in Cattaraugus County. She came to Nebraska after the marriage of our subject, and remained with him two years.

Abiel Washburn, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a New Englander by birth, and married Miss Janette Sherman. He finally migrated to Seneca County, N. Y., where he carried on farming a number of years, and also taught school. He retired from active labor some time before his



death, which took place in 1860. Grandmother Washburn survived her husband until the year 1871 or 1872. Mrs. Julia (Stewart) Washburn, the mother of our subject, was born at Milton, Saratoga Co., N. Y., April 25, 1818, and is the daughter of James Stewart, who removed to Michigan, but finally returned to his native State and spent his last years in Medina, where he died about 1872, having survived his partner two or three years.

The Washburn family traces its ancestry to good old Puritan stock, the great-grandfather of our subject having been a half-brother of Israel Washburn, father of the late Elihu B. Washburn, of Illinois. Wherever making their homes they have been people of prominence, both in connection with social and business affairs. Our subject has held various offices in his precinct, officiating as Treasurer of his school district a period of six years, being a member of the Board of Elections, and representing the Republican party in the County Conventions usually every year. A man upright and honorable in his transactions, he is one of those whose word is considered as good as his bond.



**P**ETER GOLD. The stranger to Western life is frequently surprised in taking his initial journey, to observe the advanced state of civilization apparent frequently even in remote rural districts, there being introduced into the homes of the agriculturist many appliances of modern invention, both for comfort and convenience, as well as for embellishment. Into such a home it is our pleasure to introduce the reader, also to present some of the more salient features in the life of its owner, the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this sketch.

An early pioneer of Table Rock Precinct, Mr. Gold is now the owner of a fine farm of 120 acres, pleasantly located on section 27. He also has eighty acres on section 28. His first purchase was effected in June of 1868 from its original homesteader, Rev. Mr. Arnold. It had been entered as early as 1856, but no improvements had been made upon it, not even a hedge row broken. Mr. Gold

thus was obliged to begin at first principles in the construction of a farm. He realized that there was before him no small task, but he went to work with a will, and, as the result of years of industry and perseverance, we find him the owner of a very fine estate. On his farm he set out forest and fruit trees, and has now a fine apple orchard, a vineyard of 100 grape vines, blackberries, strawberries, cherries and plums, which yield bountifully and provide the family with the luxuries of the season. During the first two winters of his sojourn here Mr. Gold lived in a shanty, ten feet square, in the timber, while he carried on the improvement of his land as rapidly as possible. His neighbors were few and far between, the nearest being Mr. Reuter and Mr. Miller. There were no buildings for miles west of Nemaha, with the exception of a dug-out belonging to John Wood.

Our subject put up a frame dwelling in 1871, and erected other structures as his time and means justified. He is now (January, 1889) preparing to build a fine large barn. His land has been brought to a good state of cultivation, and for the past few years he has been gradually branching out into stock-raising, having excellent grades of cattle, and has engaged considerably in dairying. His milch cows are especially fine, and the cream produced from these is of an unusually good quality, having been tested by experts, and pronounced equal to that of blooded stock. Mr. Gold is also largely interested in the breeding of Berkshire swine, together with fine horses.

Our subject was on the ground at the organization of School District No. 34, and assisted in the erection of the school building. He has been a member of the School Board of District No. 52, officiating as Treasurer for a number of years. He was the first Road Supervisor in his part of the precinct, and assisted in opening up the public highway through his district, besides superintending the building of the first bridges. It will thus be seen that he could have spent but few idle hours, and, although he has encountered many hardships and difficulties as a pioneer of Nebraska, he is now at the point where he can reap his reward.

A man interested in educational and religious



matters, Mr. Gold assisted in the erection of the first Methodist Episcopal Church building of Table Rock, also the Presbyterian Church, and has in fact been found ever willing to give a cheerful support to the various projects having for their object the advancement of the people. His neighbors, who have had the best means of knowing of his daily life, uniformly speak of him in the highest terms, and a man can need no better recommendation than this.

The native State of our subject was Pennsylvania, and his childhood home in Northampton County, where he was born July 1, 1840. He received a good practical education, and lived there until a young man of twenty-two years. A few months after the outbreak of the Civil War he enlisted as a Union soldier, Sept. 15, 1862, in Company A, 153d Pennsylvania Infantry. This was at the time of the nine-months call for 600,000 men. Young Gold met the enemy in many important battles, besides innumerable skirmishes, being in the fight at Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Antietam, and at the close of his term of enlistment received an honorable discharge.

Upon retiring from the army after a year's service, Mr. Gold migrated to Stephenson County, Ill., where he spent two years engaged in farming. He then sold his forty acres of land and, crossing the Mississippi, invested his capital in this county. He was married to his present wife May 16, 1883. She was formerly Mrs. Julia (Avery) Kinney, of New York City, who was visiting her brother in Table Rock Precinct, where she formed the acquaintance of our subject. Of a former marriage of Mr. Gold there is one child, a son, Henry.

Mrs. Julia Gold was born Sept. 24, 1856, in Montgomery County, N. Y., and lived there until reaching womanhood. She was then married to Mr. Kinney, and came to the West in 1880. By her first husband she became the mother of one child, a son, George W., who is living with Mr. Gold.

Jacob Gold, the father of our subject, and, like his son, a native of Northampton County, Pa., was born the first week in August, 1800. He spent his entire life in his native county engaged in agricultural pursuits. Upon reaching manhood he was

married to Miss Eva Bridinger, and this union resulted in the birth of four children. The father died at the homestead in Northampton County, in 1878. The mother, who was born in 1802, survived her husband nine years, her death taking place April 7, 1887. The elder Gold accumulated a good property, being the owner of a large tract of land, which his children afterward occupied. Peter is the only one in Nebraska.

ROBERT INGLIS. Close upon the heels of other important enterprises was established that which the subject of this sketch is now successfully prosecuting, the manufacture of buggies and spring wagons. Mr. I. came to Pawnee City in the fall of 1876, and is numbered among its most energetic business men, industrious and reliable, and worthily filling his niche in the busy hive of its various industries. A native of Illinois, he was born near Kewanee, in Henry County, Dec. 2, 1856, and is the eldest of six children, the offspring of Peter and Ellen I. (Rutherford) Inglis, who were both natives of Scotland.

The parents of our subject emigrated to the United States early in life, and after their marriage settled in Henry County, Ill., where the father was successfully engaged as a farmer and stock-trader, and where they lived until their removal to Nebraska, in 1874. Upon coming to this county they settled on a tract of land about ten miles southwest of Pawnee City, where the parents still reside. Robert remained with them until twenty years of age, acquiring a practical education, and completing his studies in the academy at Kewanee, Ill. He accompanied them to this county, and lived with them upon the farm one year, then repairing to Pawnee City began an apprenticeship at blacksmithing, which trade he followed thereafter for a period of about eight years.

Mr. Inglis at an early period in his life displayed unusual mechanical genius, and at the expiration of the time mentioned he left the anvil, and began the manufacture of spring wagons and buggies, putting out from the first about fifty jobs per year, also doing a general repair business. This enter-

prise was successful from the first, and he now gives employment during the busy season to from six to eight men. His work is all disposed of in the home market. He has invested much of his capital in real estate, putting up what is called the Pawnee City Opera House in connection with J. M. Spates, and other structures. The opera house is an object of pride to the citizens of this place, occupying an area of 52x100 feet, being two stories in height, with a capacity of seating 750 persons. There are in connection with the stage fourteen sets of scenes and other appliances making it pleasant for the theater-goers.

Miss Margaret C. Burg, of Pawnee County, became the wife of our subject Dec. 8, 1875. She was born Dec. 8, 1856, and is the daughter of Francis Burg, who is now deceased, having spent his last years in this county. They have two children, a son and daughter, George F. and Nellie. Mr. Inglis has served as a member of the City Council three years, and is at present the City Treasurer. He is rather conservative in politics, but usually votes the Republican ticket. Socially, he belongs to Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F., and is a Knight of Pythias. In religious matters he is identified with the First Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Inglis is numbered among the self-made men of this county, who, knowing how their property has been accumulated, naturally know how to take care of it. He has sufficient to support him in his declining years, and is adding steadily to his bank account.



**J**OHN DAVIS, dealer in lumber and coal, and having his headquarters in Pawnee City, represents a portion of the solidity and reliability of the business community, of which he became a member March 17, 1871. To this point have migrated men of nearly all nations, and Mr. Davis is a native of Wales, having been born in Aberdare, March 3, 1850. He emigrated to America with his parents when a lad nine years of age, and, although so young, remembers many of the scenes of his native shire, the incidents of

preparation for a long voyage across the Atlantic, and the landing in the New World.

David W. and Mary (Davis) Davis, the parents of our subject, were of pure Welsh ancestry, and, after coming to the United States, located first on a tract of land in Sauk County, Wis. They resided there until the outbreak of the Civil War, and the father then enlisted in Company A, 36th Wisconsin Infantry, and died at Salisbury, N. C., after a service of one year, in December, 1864. In the meantime he had suffered the terrors of Libby and Andersonville Prisons.

The mother with her six children remained on the farm in Wisconsin, and our subject staid with them until reaching his majority. Then, desirous of seeing something of the more Western country, he migrated to this county, and taught school in order to get money to purchase land. He was thus occupied two years, and later became book-keeper in the store of J. R. Ervin, which position he occupied four years. He made good headway in the esteem and confidence of the people, and in 1877 was elected Clerk of Pawnee County, in which office he served acceptably two years, and was re-elected for another term. Upon retiring from the Clerk's office he engaged in the lumber trade, handling pine of all kinds, and finally taking in a partner, W. T. Jones, they operating together until the death of Mr. Jones, which occurred in December, 1887, since which time Mr. Davis has continued the business alone.

Miss Emma Tracy, a native of Ohio, became the wife of our subject Aug. 23, 1876, the wedding taking place at the bride's home in Pawnee County. Mrs. Davis went with her parents to Illinois very early in life, in which State she grew to womanhood, receiving her education in the common school. Of her union with our subject there have been born four children, two of whom are living, namely: D. Lyle and Waldo T. One interesting little girl, named Imo T., died at the age of eight years, and an infant unnamed.

Politically, Mr. Davis voted, until 1887, uniformly with the Republican party, but his strong sympathy with the temperance work led him later to ally himself with the Prohibitionists. He has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church



for a period of twenty-one years, and has always taken an active part in the church and Sunday-school of this city. He took a course of study in the Worthington & Warner Commercial College, at Madison, Wis., working to pay his way through school. In his lumber transactions he has been more than ordinarily successful, doing a business of \$12,000 annually. He occupies a handsome residence, which was put up at a cost of \$6,000, and which, with its surroundings, forms one of the most complete homes in the city.



**J**OSEPH B. MORTON in years gone by stood among the stalwart, self-reliant, courageous, capable pioneers of Pawnee County, who, with strength of mind and muscle, and steadiness of purpose, overcame all obstacles that beset the path of the frontiersmen in settling up the wild country that they found here in the fifties, and today are deservedly enjoying the fruits of their early labors in comfortable homes. Mr. Morton was an early settler of Pawnee City, coming here in 1857, when there was not a house standing on the present site of the city. There had, however, been a sale of lots, and our subject after his arrival purchased the lot where Irving's store now stands on Main street. He there built a house, and fitting up the front part as a store, he opened the first mercantile establishment in the city of Pawnee. About the same time a man by the name of Lemon put up a house, the front part of which he used as a store, and entered into friendly competition with our subject. Mr. Morton bought his first stock of goods in Iowa Point, Kan., and afterward traded in St. Joseph, Mo. The city not being very populous at that early date, business was not very flourishing, and our subject rented his store building for a hotel, the first kept in Pawnee. He then came to his present place of residence, and bought the land which he has developed into his present fine farm. Some of it had been broken and a house stood on it, and our subject energetically set about making further improvements. He now has his farm all fenced, 100 acres of its exceedingly fertile soil under fine tillage, and has about fifty acres of forest,

from which a tree has never been cut. He enlarged the house that stood on the farm when he bought it, and had quite a roomy and conveniently arranged dwelling, but, being on low ground, it was considerably damaged by the flood of January, 1882, together with 150 hogs, 3,000 bushels of corn, and everything else that was movable. Mr. Morton then built his present residence, a substantial frame house, with all the modern conveniences, on the hill, far from the devastating influences of any sudden rise of waters.

Mr. Morton helped to form this school district, which has always been called the Morton district in his honor. He was elected its first Director, and for twelve years held that office, and then resigned the position, declining all solicitations to retain it any further. In virtue of his office he was the chief member of the building committee, and supervised the building of the school-house, borrowing the money for that purpose, bonds having been voted and sold, and he took charge of the whole thing and transacted all the business very thoroughly and satisfactorily. Although Mr. Morton has taken a genuine interest in public affairs, he has been no politician, but has always supported the solid Democratic ticket at the polls. In religion he is a respected member of the United Brethren Church. He has a keen, thoughtful mind, is well read, and in him his neighbors find a kind and considerate friend. During his long career as a farmer he showed himself possessed of sound, practical wisdom and a good capacity for labor, and in all particulars he has conducted himself with a strict honorableness and fairness. He now rents his farm, but still has a general oversight of it to see that everything is kept up to the same high standard to which he brought it.

Mr. Morton was born in Virginia, in Lee County, Aug. 21, 1816. His father, Jesse L. Morton, was born in North Carolina prior to the Revolution, and was eighteen years of age when that war was brought to a close. He took part in the War of 1812, and was crippled by a cannon carriage. He spent most of his life in Lee County, Va., engaged in farming. He and his wife were both born near Hillsboro, N. C., and they remembered the British encampment at that place. They were not long



divided in death, his decease occurring six weeks after hers. They were quiet, respected people, and reared their children, of whom they had five who lived to maturity, to exemplary, useful lives.

Our subject lived in the Old Dominion until 1851, and in the meantime acquired a practical education, which he utilized by teaching school. He there followed farming until the year mentioned, when he migrated to Missouri. He married in Virginia Miss Nancy Wells, of Powell's Valley, Va., and to them came six children, five of whom are still living, namely: Mrs. Elizabeth Cochran, whose home is one mile south of her father's; Jesse L. is single; Mary G., widow of J. F. C. McCaslin, who now resides with her father; Gabriel J., next north of our subject's house, and John O., one mile north, both having families and farms of their own. Jesse L., the eldest son of our subject, was in the late war, serving throughout, and receiving a wound from the effects of which he lost a limb. After marriage Mr. Morton moved to Andrew County, Mo., one mile south of Fillmore, and farmed there until Kansas was opened for settlement in 1854, when he went to Iowa Point, a little town in that State. There his wife was sick for a year, and died of consumption. In 1857 Mr. Morton came here with his children, and after living a widower for seven years, he married Mrs. McNeil, the widow of a very early settler of Pawnee County. To them came one child, Charles T., a farmer and thrasher at Steinauer, Neb. Mr. Morton was a second time bereaved of a good wife and devoted helpmate, Mrs. M. dying May 1, 1880. Politically, Mr. Morton is a Democrat.



**JOHN CONARD.** Nebraska numbers among her citizens many who were in the Union Army during the late war, some of them taking up arms and fighting in their country's defense before they had arrived at man's estate. As a fine representative of this soldier element in the development of this great State, we are pleased to present herewith a sketch of the life of the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this bio-

graphical notice. He was one of the early pioneers of Pawnee County, coming here the year after the close of the Rebellion, and has ever since been identified with its agricultural interests. He owns and manages one of the largest farms in Mission Creek Precinct, comprising 240 acres of land of unsurpassed fertility, on sections 31 and 32, and he has besides eighty acres of land in Marshall County, Kan.

Our subject was born Jan. 11, 1845, near the town of Brookville, on the homestead that his father had cleared from the primeval forests of Franklin County, Ind. His mother, whose maiden name was Christiana Cruse, was likewise a native of that county. His father, Peter Conard, was a German by birth and breeding. The paternal grandfather of our subject, Peter Conard, was a native and lifelong resident of Germany, dying there in 1860, at the venerable age of seventy-six years. He was the owner of a vineyard and manufactured wine for many years. Charles Cruse, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was born in Prussia, but later in life came to America and located in Indiana, and for several years thereafter was engaged in farming in Franklin County, of which he was a pioneer. He died in 1849, in the home that he had built up there by patient industry.

The father of our subject was reared in his native Germany to the life of a farmer, and remained an inmate of the parental home until his emigration to the United States in 1835, when he was twenty-one years of age. He located in Franklin County, Ind., and buying Government land, cleared a farm, and he and his family resided thereon until 1868. In that year he sold his property in that county, and moving to Dearborn County, in the same State, carried on farming there very prosperously until his death, at the age of sixty-seven, in 1881. He was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church, living up to his Christian creed in word and deed, and he was thoroughly respected by all who knew him. He had the misfortune to lose his devoted companion in early life, she dying in 1854, while yet in the prime of life, being only thirty years of age. To them had been born six children, as follows: Henry and Sophia, who are dead; John; Fred, who died Jan. 4, 1889, in Kansas City;

George W. and Charles, twins; the former in Marshall County, Kan., and the latter deceased.

Mr. Conard grew to manhood on his father's farm, receiving the usual common-school advantages. He was but a boy when the great Civil War broke out, but he watched with intense interest its progress, and in December, 1863, when eighteen years of age, was permitted to enlist in defense of the stars and stripes, and he became a member of the 123d Indiana Infantry, Company D, 1st Division, 1st Brigade, 23d Corps, Army of the Ohio. He was mustered in at Greensburg, Ind., and then sent to Nashville, Tenn. He was with his regiment at Charleston, at Resaca and Dallas, and in various engagements on the march to Atlanta. From that city he and his comrades were sent back to Nashville, under command of Gen. Thomas, and took an active part in the battle of Franklin and the one at Nashville. Our subject then went to North Carolina, and was present during the engagement at Wise Forks, and later he witnessed Lee's surrender at Richmond. He accompanied his regiment to Charlotte, N. C., to do guard duty, and was there mustered out of the army, and received his discharge papers at Indianapolis, Ind., Sept. 7, 1865. Although a young man he had shown the coolness, courage and endurance of a veteran, and was in all respects a thorough soldier, doing his duty well whether in camp or on the field under the enemy's fire. After his military experience Mr. Conard returned to the old home in Indiana, and remained there over winter and the following summer. In the fall of 1866 he decided to avail himself of the cheap lands of the Territory of Nebraska, and starting on the somewhat lengthy journey with a team, crossed the Mississippi at Quincy, Ill., and the Missouri at St. Joseph, Mo., and proceeded to his destination in Pawnee County. He took up a tract of 160 acres of Government land as a homestead, located on sections 31 and 32, included in his present farm. He was one of the earliest settlers of Mission Creek Precinct, and is now one of the oldest living here in point of settlement. His land had no improvements on it, and with characteristic vigor he set about the pioneer task of developing it into a farm, which to-day may be considered a model. He broke the soil in which to plant his first crop,

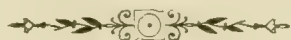
and erected a log house, which he has since replaced by a more commodious and conveniently arranged dwelling, and has erected a fine set of farm buildings, a windmill (Murdock) for watering purposes with two tanks, and the Grover mill to grind his grain for feeding.

Mr. Conard has since purchased more land from time to time, a 160-acre tract and an 80-acre tract adjoining, besides the eighty acres previously mentioned in Kansas. He has fenced his farm with wire, has plenty of hay and pasture land, and his farm is amply provided with all the most approved machinery for lightening labor. Mr. Conard has ten acres of timber land, eight acres of groves and a fine orchard of twelve acres. He engages extensively in general farming, paying considerable attention to stock-raising, and has sixteen horses of fine breed.

Mr. Conard was married in Greensburg, Decatur Co., Ind., Jan. 7, 1868, to Miss Elizabeth Winter. She was born Aug. 12, 1842, in St. Omer, Decatur Co., Ind., a daughter of Gideon and Priscilla (Niceley) Winter. Her father was born in Ohio, Sept. 15, 1815, and her mother was born in Tennessee, Oct. 10, 1819. Her paternal grandfather, John Niceley, a native of Tennessee, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a farmer by occupation, and moving to Ripley, Ohio, was a pioneer there, carrying on agriculture until his death. Her father was a blacksmith, and moving to Ripley, carried on his trade there some years. He then went to Decatur County, Ind., of which he was an early settler, and thence moved to Kansas in 1869. He took up a claim in Marshall County, near the town of Beattie, and there died in January, 1878. The mother of Mrs. Conard is still living and is sixty-nine years old. Of her marriage ten children were born, eight of whom are living, as follows: Jane, Elizabeth, William, Joseph, Francis, Mary, Jessie, Addie. William took part in the late war at the same time as our subject, and was a member of the same company. Mrs. Conard is an amiable, refined lady, with a natural taste for the beautiful, as is shown in the adornment of her attractive, cozy home. Five children have blessed her marriage with our subject, namely: Joseph B., Clara B., Jessie Z., Myrtie, John R., the latter being dead.



Though he has scarcely attained the meridian of life our subject has already accumulated a comfortable property, and stands among the solid men of Pawnee County, and this is due not alone to the fact that he labors persistently and pays strict attention to his business, but also because he is a man of more than average capacity and discernment. His fellow-citizens have found him wise and helpful in their councils concerning public affairs, and he is now serving the township ably as Supervisor. He held the office of Assessor one year. In him the Republican party of this section of the country finds one of its strongest adherents. He is an esteemed member of the G. A. R. at Liberty. He has served on both the Grand and the Petit Jury.



**R**ICHARD L. VEDDER. If there is any condition in life affording satisfaction it would seem to be that of the retired farmer, who, looking back upon a long and useful career, feels that his time has been well spent, and that, in opening up a portion of her territory for settlement, he has contributed in no small degree to the progress and prosperity of his county. Mr. Vedder is one of the most worthy representatives of his class, a man whose strict honesty and reliability of character have caused his name to be held in high respect by all who have come within the sphere of his acquaintance.

The native place of our subject was in Onondaga County, N. Y., where he first opened his eyes to the light Sept. 4, 1836. His father, Albert A. Vedder, was born near the city of Troy, same State, in 1807, where during his younger days he carried on farming and carpentering combined. The paternal grandfather, Aaron Vedder, was of Holland-Dutch ancestry, and married a lady of French descent. The latter lived to the advanced age of ninety-seven years, spending her last days in New York State with her daughter. Grandfather Vedder also died in New York.

Mrs. Susan D. (Lusk) Vedder, also a native of the Empire State, was born in 1816, and was the daughter of Richard Lusk, whose offspring numbered eight children. Richard L. Vedder, our

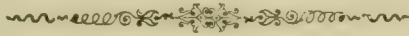
subject, was the second child of his parents, and was reared after the manner of most farmers' sons, going a barefooted boy to the district school, and assisting his parents in the various employments of the farm. This he left, however, when a youth of nineteen years, starting out for himself and working by the month. He left his native State in 1857, and migrated to the vicinity of Clinton, Iowa, where he stopped two years, and became interested in the grain business at that point and Lyons. In 1859 he returned home, but a few months later started again for the West, bringing up at Wyandotte, Kan. Recrossing the Mississippi once more, we find him in Greene County, Ill., about 1860, where he suddenly leaped into prominence as Deputy Clerk in the Recorder's office. Upon leaving this he occupied himself as a druggist, but this enterprise not being an entire success, he entered the employ of the Chicago & Alton Railroad Company, holding the position of Station Agent for about four years.

In the month of June, 1868, Mr. Vedder made his advent into Pawnee City, and he was so favorably impressed with the place that he began at once making arrangements for a permanent residence. His first business venture was in the hardware trade, which he prosecuted three years. He then drifted back to farming, on land lying four miles east of Pawnee City, which he had purchased, and which he occupied four years. Here he had 240 acres, which he brought to a good state of cultivation, and of which he still retains ownership, it being operated by a renter. He retired from the active duties of farm life on account of rheumatism, about 1880, wisely relegating those labors to younger hands.

The 23d of September, 1863, was a memorable day in the life of our subject, when he was united in marriage with Miss Anna Bowman, of Carrollton, Ill. Mrs. Vedder is a native of that town, and the daughter of Martin and Harriet (Christy) Bowman, who were natives of Ohio. The father is still living, and a resident of that town. This union resulted in the birth of three children, two daughters and a son, the latter of whom, Martin A., is now occupied in the Armour establishments, in the city of Omaha. Lucy A. and Harriet C. are at



home with their parents. Mr. Vedder was at one time a Deputy Clerk in Carrollton, Ill., and in political matters he uniformly gives his influence in support of Democratic doctrines. Mrs. Vedder and daughters are members of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**OHN R. HUNZEKER is a farmer of Sheridan Precinct, and one of the Hunzeker brothers, who came to Nebraska in the early part of its settlement and have been identified with many of the improvements of Pawnee County, their history being so mingled with its growth and prosperity that no sketch of the county would be complete without notice of the incidents connected with their pioneer life here.

Our subject was born in Switzerland, Sept. 7, 1854, and when a child was brought to the United States with his parents in 1855. They wended their way westward, and after stopping at one or two intermediate points, came to Pawnee County, where they settled in 1857. The country had very few inhabitants and but little had been done to redeem the land from its original wildness. There were no roads and but one trail to the west, and our subject lent his assistance in locating and building highways and bridges. The nearest market for his farm produce was St. Joseph, and he exchanged the most of what he raised in that city for domestic goods, although occasionally our subject would form one of a small party to take a load of produce, usually bacon, to Denver, where it brought a much higher price, the time of making the round trip having been three months or more. Mr. Hunzeker purchased an 80-acre tract of prairie land in 1868, on which he settled and began its cultivation, to which he has since added. With unceasing toil and courageous perseverance, coupled with admirable judgment and strict attention to the minor details of his vocation, he has evolved a beautiful and well-cultivated farm. It consists of 215 acres of fertile land, lying on sections 23, 24, 25 and 36, of Sheridan Precinct, on which he has set out good groves of forest trees, an orchard, plenty of small fruit and a vineyard. The latter he has made a paying investment, using the grapes

for the manufacture of wine, of which he has some years made as much as 300 gallons. Like many other farmers of this vicinity, Mr. Hunzeker pays especial attention to the raising of stock, and has some splendid, full-blooded Herefords, he having been the first to introduce that breed of cattle into this locality. In 1885 our subject erected on his homestead a large stone house, of modern architecture and pleasing design, which is pleasantly located on section 25, and there with his family he lives in comfort and happiness, enjoying the rewards of his early labor.

Mr. Hunzeker has been twice married. The maiden name of his first wife was Mary Hanna. She was a native of Bohemia, and when a girl came to this country with her parents. Her father, Joseph Hanna, is now living in this State, engaged in farming. Mrs. Hunzeker lived but five years after marriage, dying Oct. 3, 1878, and leaving her husband with one child, Christina. In 1879 our subject took as his second wife Miss Josephine Hanna, a sister of his first wife, and of the children born of this union five are now living, namely: Rosa, Frankie, Edward, Wilhelm and Ida E. Mr. Hunzeker is a well-informed, liberal, public-spirited man, interested in local matters, and has served intelligently in the various township and school offices. In politics he is a Democrat, although in county elections he votes irrespective of party for the best man.



**W**ILLIAM I. ANDERSON. The name of this gentleman is reverently placed in the list of the early pioneers of this county, who, after the labors of long and useful lives, have gone to their final home. He was born in Monroe County, Ind., May 22, 1822, and departed this life at his home in Pawnee Precinct, near the limits of Pawnee City, on the 19th of April, 1888. He was a man of more than ordinary abilities, a thorough and skillful farmer, correct in his business transactions, and as a citizen was held in high esteem. He formed one of the important factors in the development of Pawnee County, and at his death left a vacancy which it will be difficult to fill.

The Anderson family was familiarly known in

the South at an early date, and Robert A., the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia. He came to Nebraska about 1857, and died in Pawnee City in the fall of 1865. From the Old Dominion he had migrated first to Kentucky, and then to Illinois, coming thence to Nebraska. He married Miss Jane Woods, a sister of Joseph Woods, who built the Exchange Hotel in Pawnee City many years ago, and was one of the prominent citizens of this county. They reared a numerous family, of whom William I., our subject, was the second born.

Young Anderson remained with his parents in his native State until reaching manhood, engaged mostly in agricultural pursuits. He took for his wife Miss Elizabeth A. Cochran, who was a native of Mercer County, Ky., and moved with her parents to Indiana when quite young. The young people first settled in Jefferson County, Ind., then removed to Kentucky, where they lived five years. Then returning to Indiana, they settled in Johnson County, but in 1856 crossed the Mississippi into Wapello County, Iowa, and the year following came to Nebraska.

The father of our subject pre-empted 160 acres of land on section 7, Pawnee Precinct, this county, upon which he operated four years, then sold out and removed to a point adjacent to the city limits, where he sojourned with his family four years. Later he homesteaded the farm now occupied by his children. This comprises 160 acres on section 9, which he proved up and upon which he effected good improvements. Later he added to his landed estate until he had a valuable farm of 240 acres. He put up a good residence and other buildings, planted an orchard, and gathered around him all the conveniences of modern life. Later he turned his attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of cattle and swine, shipping quite largely each year. He departed this life at a ripe old age, on the 19th of April, 1888, having survived his estimable wife a period of twenty-two years, her death taking place Dec. 1, 1866. She was born in February, 1822, and was consequently nearly forty-five years of age at the time of her decease.

To William I. and Elizabeth Anderson there were born eight children, namely: Robert F., Ella J., Milton O., Elzola A.; David L., who died Jan. 26,

1887; William H., Mary A. and Joseph L. The subject of this sketch upon coming to Nebraska identified himself with the most important interests of his adopted county, representing Pawnee Precinct three terms in the County Board of Supervisors, and held this office at the time of his death. He was rather conservative in politics, but usually voted the Republican ticket. In religious matters he was a devout member of the Christian Church, a man careful and conscientious in the performance of every duty, and one held in universal esteem by all who knew him. His son William H. is the manager of the farm, assisted by his brother Joseph L. Milton O. is acting in the capacity of Marshal of Pawnee City. The homestead is being conducted upon the same methodical plan which has brought it to its present prosperous condition, and made it one of the most valuable estates in the county. The family is widely and favorably known, and represents the respectable and reliable element of this section.

**M**ARCUS A. RICE. This gentleman, although yet in his prime, has been so successful in his operations as a druggist that he was recently enabled to retire from active business, and occupies a quiet and pleasant home in Pawnee City, surrounded by all the comforts of life. His native place was Fulton County, Ill., where he was born May 9, 1840, and his parents were Dr. E. D. and Thalia (Owens) Rice, the father born near the city of Boston, Mass., and the mother in New York.

The father of our subject left New England in early life, and entered upon the practice of his profession at Lewistown, Ill., which he pursued there a period of nearly fifty years, having located there in 1828. His decease took place in Lewistown, in January, 1879. The mother departed this life in Lewistown, Ill., Jan. 31, 1879. The parental household included six children, of whom our subject was the fifth. He spent his boyhood and youth in his native town, acquiring a good practical education in the common school. His first business experience was as a clerk in the drug-store of his father, where he became thoroughly acquainted



with all the details of this business. He was married in that place to Miss Jennie Piersol, who died eight years later, leaving one son, John D., who came to Nebraska, and died in Pawnee City, in 1876.

Mr. Rice left Illinois in December, 1872, and coming to Pawnee City purchased a stock of drugs of his brother, August Rice, and continued the business at the same stand successfully until 1879, at which time he sold out, and retired from active business, with the exception of some dealings in real estate, and the loaning of money.

Our subject contracted a second marriage in October, 1873, with Miss Florence W. Humphrey, of Jefferson City, Iowa. This lady was born in April, 1856, and is the daughter of J. H. and Harriet (Lee) Humphrey, who were natives of Connecticut, and are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Rice are the parents of one child, a son, Marcus A., Jr., who was born July 13, 1887. He purchased his present residence in 1888. It stands in the southeastern part of the city, and with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive homes.

A strong supporter of Republican principles, Mr. Rice, although no office-seeker, has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as County Treasurer and Mayor of Pawnee City one term. His elder brother, August, formerly of Pawnee City, is now a resident of Hastings, this State. Charles is a practicing physician of St. Joseph, Mo. His sister Catherine E. is the wife of Joseph Lamaster, of Lincoln. Another sister, Juliet, is the wife of A. B. Johnson, residing at Lewistown, Ill. Sarah W. married Dr. J. B. McDowell, and died at Mason City, Ill., about 1879. The paternal grandfather, Asaph Rice, was of English ancestry, and spent his last years in Illinois, dying at the advanced age of ninety-six.

and although his time is amply employed in connection with the duties of his profession, he still finds time to keep pace with all the practical details and improvements constantly pressing themselves upon the attention of the fraternity. He is a man in the prime of life, having been born Nov. 6, 1834, in the city and Kingdom of Hanover.

In accordance with the laws and customs of the German Empire, young Meyer was placed in school when a lad of six years, and pursued his studies quite steadily until a youth of fourteen. Afterward he spent a term in the military school at Hanover, and then served in the German Army five years. At the expiration of this time he determined to seek his fortunes in the New World, and making his way to Bremen, embarked on a sailing-vessel for America, which landed him in New York City six weeks later. From there he proceeded to Chicago, Ill., where he sojourned two years engaged in farming near that city. The outbreak of the Civil War now furnished employment to thousands of young and vigorous men, and soon after the first call for troops our subject enlisted in Company B, 1st Illinois Cavalry, being assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and sent to Western Virginia under command of Gen. Rosecrans. Not long afterward he met the enemy in battle at Cheat Mountain and Fredericksburg, also at Cross Lane, and other minor engagements. At one time the soldiers obtained very little rest either night or day. Mr. Meyer fortunately escaped wounds and capture, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment was honorably discharged in June, 1863. Returning to Chicago, Ill., our subject joined his parents, who in the meantime had emigrated to America, and lived with them on a farm in Cook County until turning his steps toward the farther West. In the year 1865, coming to this county, he homesteaded 160 acres of land in Cincinnati Precinct, which he improved, and from which he constructed a good farm. He operated there successfully until 1883, then retiring from the active labors of rural life, took up his abode in Pawnee City, where he has since lived. It had been his intention since a young man, to take up the study of medicine at some convenient time, which time, however, did not arrive until after coming to Nebraska. He

**HENRY C. F. MEYER.** As a well-read and skillful practitioner, the physician with whose name this sketch is introduced occupies no unimportant position in a community of intelligent people. His practice equals that of any member of the profession in this county,



the South at an early date, and Robert A., the father of our subject, was a native of Virginia. He came to Nebraska about 1857, and died in Pawnee City in the fall of 1865. From the Old Dominion he had migrated first to Kentucky, and then to Illinois, coming thence to Nebraska. He married Miss Jane Woods, a sister of Joseph Woods, who built the Exchange Hotel in Pawnee City many years ago, and was one of the prominent citizens of this county. They reared a numerous family, of whom William I., our subject, was the second born.

Young Anderson remained with his parents in his native State until reaching manhood, engaged mostly in agricultural pursuits. He took for his wife Miss Elizabeth A. Cochran, who was a native of Mercer County, Ky., and moved with her parents to Indiana when quite young. The young people first settled in Jefferson County, Ind., then removed to Kentucky, where they lived five years. Then returning to Indiana, they settled in Johnson County, but in 1856 crossed the Mississippi into Wapello County, Iowa, and the year following came to Nebraska.

The father of our subject pre-empted 160 acres of land on section 7, Pawnee Precinct, this county, upon which he operated four years, then sold out and removed to a point adjacent to the city limits, where he sojourned with his family four years. Later he homesteaded the farm now occupied by his children. This comprises 160 acres on section 9, which he proved up and upon which he effected good improvements. Later he added to his landed estate until he had a valuable farm of 240 acres. He put up a good residence and other buildings, planted an orchard, and gathered around him all the conveniences of modern life. Later he turned his attention to stock-raising, making a specialty of cattle and swine, shipping quite largely each year. He departed this life at a ripe old age, on the 19th of April, 1888, having survived his estimable wife a period of twenty-two years, her death taking place Dec. 1, 1866. She was born in February, 1822, and was consequently nearly forty-five years of age at the time of her decease.

To William I. and Elizabeth Anderson there were born eight children, namely: Robert F., Ella J., Milton O., Elzola A.; David L., who died Jan. 26,

1887; William H., Mary A. and Joseph L. The subject of this sketch upon coming to Nebraska identified himself with the most important interests of his adopted county, representing Pawnee Precinct three terms in the County Board of Supervisors, and held this office at the time of his death. He was rather conservative in politics, but usually voted the Republican ticket. In religious matters he was a devout member of the Christian Church, a man careful and conscientious in the performance of every duty, and one held in universal esteem by all who knew him. His son William H. is the manager of the farm, assisted by his brother Joseph L. Milton O. is acting in the capacity of Marshal of Pawnee City. The homestead is being conducted upon the same methodical plan which has brought it to its present prosperous condition, and made it one of the most valuable estates in the county. The family is widely and favorably known, and represents the respectable and reliable element of this section.

**M**ARCUS A. RICE. This gentleman, although yet in his prime, has been so successful in his operations as a druggist that he was recently enabled to retire from active business, and occupies a quiet and pleasant home in Pawnee City, surrounded by all the comforts of life. His native place was Fulton County, Ill., where he was born May 9, 1840, and his parents were Dr. E. D. and Thalia (Owens) Rice, the father born near the city of Boston, Mass., and the mother in New York.

The father of our subject left New England in early life, and entered upon the practice of his profession at Lewistown, Ill., which he pursued there a period of nearly fifty years, having located there in 1828. His decease took place in Lewistown, in January, 1879. The mother departed this life in Lewistown, Ill., Jan. 31, 1879. The parental household included six children, of whom our subject was the fifth. He spent his boyhood and youth in his native town, acquiring a good practical education in the common school. His first business experience was as a clerk in the drug-store of his father, where he became thoroughly acquainted

with all the details of this business. He was married in that place to Miss Jennie Piersol, who died eight years later, leaving one son, John D., who came to Nebraska, and died in Pawnee City, in 1876.

Mr. Rice left Illinois in December, 1872, and coming to Pawnee City purchased a stock of drugs of his brother, August Rice, and continued the business at the same stand successfully until 1879, at which time he sold out, and retired from active business, with the exception of some dealings in real estate, and the loaning of money.

Our subject contracted a second marriage in October, 1873, with Miss Florence W. Humphrey, of Jefferson City, Iowa. This lady was born in April, 1856, and is the daughter of J. H. and Harriet (Lee) Humphrey, who were natives of Connecticut, and are now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Rice are the parents of one child, a son, Marcus A., Jr., who was born July 13, 1887. He purchased his present residence in 1888. It stands in the southeastern part of the city, and with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive homes.

A strong supporter of Republican principles, Mr. Rice, although no office-seeker, has been quite prominent in local affairs, serving as County Treasurer and Mayor of Pawnee City one term. His elder brother, August, formerly of Pawnee City, is now a resident of Hastings, this State. Charles is a practicing physician of St. Joseph, Mo. His sister Catherine E. is the wife of Joseph Lamaster, of Lincoln. Another sister, Juliet, is the wife of A. B. Johnson, residing at Lewistown, Ill. Sarah W. married Dr. J. B. McDowell, and died at Mason City, Ill., about 1879. The paternal grandfather, Asaph Rice, was of English ancestry, and spent his last years in Illinois, dying at the advanced age of ninety-six.

and although his time is amply employed in connection with the duties of his profession, he still finds time to keep pace with all the practical details and improvements constantly pressing themselves upon the attention of the fraternity. He is a man in the prime of life, having been born Nov. 6, 1834, in the city and Kingdom of Hanover.

In accordance with the laws and customs of the German Empire, young Meyer was placed in school when a lad of six years, and pursued his studies quite steadily until a youth of fourteen. Afterward he spent a term in the military school at Hanover, and then served in the German Army five years. At the expiration of this time he determined to seek his fortunes in the New World, and making his way to Bremen, embarked on a sailing-vessel for America, which landed him in New York City six weeks later. From there he proceeded to Chicago, Ill., where he sojourned two years engaged in farming near that city. The outbreak of the Civil War now furnished employment to thousands of young and vigorous men, and soon after the first call for troops our subject enlisted in Company B, 1st Illinois Cavalry, being assigned to the Army of the Potomac, and sent to Western Virginia under command of Gen. Rosecrans. Not long afterward he met the enemy in battle at Cheap Mountain and Fredericksburg, also at Cross Lane, and other minor engagements. At one time the soldiers obtained very little rest either night or day. Mr. Meyer fortunately escaped wounds and capture, and at the expiration of his term of enlistment was honorably discharged in June, 1863. Returning to Chicago, Ill., our subject joined his parents, who in the meantime had emigrated to America, and lived with them on a farm in Cook County until turning his steps toward the farther West. In the year 1865, coming to this county, he homesteaded 160 acres of land in Cincinnati Precinct, which he improved, and from which he constructed a good farm. He operated there successfully until 1883, then retiring from the active labors of rural life, took up his abode in Pawnee City, where he has since lived. It had been his intention since a young man, to take up the study of medicine at some convenient time, which time, however, did not arrive until after coming to Nebraska. He

**HENRY C. F. MEYER.** As a well-read and skillful practitioner, the physician with whose name this sketch is introduced occupies no unimportant position in a community of intelligent people. His practice equals that of any member of the profession in this county,



entered upon his first course of lectures in Kansas City, and later began making experiments which have resulted in one of the most valuable compounds known to the medical world, and by the aid of which he has effected some wonderful cures. For proof of this we need only to interview some of the most reliable citizens of this county.

After returning from the army, Dr. Meyer was married, in Chicago, Ill., to Miss Minnie Ronnspisz, of that city, and also a native of Germany. They have a family of six children, two sons and four daughters, namely: William H., Henry, Lena, Dora, Amelia and Lizzie. Dr. Meyer has wisely invested a portion of his surplus capital in real estate, his main farm containing now 240 acres, eighty acres of which are in Kansas. His city residence is a neat and substantial structure, conveniently located, and with attractive surroundings. He is numbered among Pawnee City's most reliable men, and as a practitioner is in the enjoyment of a good income.

On an adjoining page is shown a portrait of this able physician and well-known citizen of Pawnee County.



**REV. ALFRED L. HARRINGTON.** The subject of this biographical outline, a retired minister of the Presbyterian Church, and a resident of Pawnee City, was born near Smithville, Jefferson Co., N. Y., Nov. 27, 1821. He was the youngest of eleven children, six sons and five daughters, comprising the family of Brooks and Betsey (Hazen) Harrington, only six of whom survive, three sons and three daughters.

The parents of our subject were both natives of Connecticut, and the father gave patriotic service to his country in the War of 1812, meeting the enemy at the battle of Sackett's Harbor and distinguishing himself as a brave and faithful soldier. After marriage the parents settled in Jefferson County, N. Y., where the father conducted a hotel and also carried on farming. He died in middle life, when his son Alfred L. was quite young. The mother a few years later, leaving New York State, removed with her family to Adams County, Ill., in the fall of 1831, and purchased a tract of land,

paying therefor \$1.25 per acre. Under the supervision of the mother, the sons carried on the improvement of the farm, building up a comfortable homestead. The mother spent her last days with her children, passing away in 1868.

Our subject was a lad of seven years when his mother removed to Illinois, and had nearly attained to man's estate before the establishment of any school in Adams County. He remembers distinctly the building in which his first studies were conducted and the primitive methods of instruction. Religious meetings were held first at the homes of the settlers, and later in the school-houses. The Harrington family traveled forty miles to mill before bridges had been built over the streams, and when the houses of the emigrant were few and far between.

Upon reaching his majority Mr. Harrington resolved that he would obtain an education, and with this aim in view labored with all the industry and economy of which he was master. In the fall of 1841, to his great satisfaction, he entered the Illinois College at Jacksonville, where he took a four years' course, and from which he was graduated in 1848. He subsequently taught three years in the college, and then prepared himself for his contemplated ministerial labors by taking a course in the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, from which he was graduated in 1855.

Mr. Harrington received his license to preach, and was ordained in July of the above-mentioned year, and was placed in charge of the Congregational Church at Peru, in LaSalle County, Ill. He continued in this until 1859, and then found that he must change his occupation, his health having become greatly impaired. For twenty years thereafter he followed farming in LaSalle County. Thence he finally removed to Adams County, engaging there also in agricultural pursuits. In 1883, resolving to seek the farther West, he removed with his family to Pawnee County, arriving here in the spring of that year, and where he has since resided.

The wedded life of Mr. Harrington and Miss Julia A. Collins commenced on the 5th of August, 1850, at the home of the bride in Adams County, Ill. This lady was born Dec. 8, 1830, and is the daughter of Frederick and Mary (Allen) Collins.



who were natives respectively of Connecticut and New York. Frederick Collins was a very prominent man during the early history of Illinois at the time of the agitation of the slavery question, and distinguished himself as an ardent Abolitionist. He took part in the many discussions arising at that time, being a fluent and effective speaker, and was a nominee for Lieutenant Governor on the Free Soil and anti-Slavery ticket. He spent his last years in Illinois, passing away in 1878. His wife Mary died in 1886.

To our subject and his estimable wife there were born six children, three sons and three daughters: Ella W. is the wife of Rev. T. D. Davis, of Otoe County, this State; Frederick C., Lewis W. and George A. are all engaged in the hardware business in Pawnee City; Julia A. and Louisa M. are at home with their parents. Mr. Harrington, during the existence of slavery, was most energetically opposed to the peculiar institution, and assisted in the organization of the Republican party in 1856. He also arrayed himself prominently on the side of temperance. He is a man of decided views, fearless in the expression of them, and one not easily turned from his convictions. Upon coming to the West he was elected the first Mayor of Pawnee City after its incorporation. He occupies with his family a neat and comfortable home in the northeastern part of the town, and numbers his friends and associates among its most cultivated people.

**W**ILLIAM SUTTON, Secretary and Manager of the Table Rock Creamery Association, is also a large stockholder in this enterprise, which has become a leading industry of this part of the county. The creamery is eligibly situated on Dry Branch, just south of the city of Table Rock, and was established in 1883. Its original capacity was 2,500 pounds per day, but is now double that, utilizing large quantities of cream sent in from an area of twenty-five miles in different directions. The main building occupies an area of 32x60 feet, and is equipped with all the appliances requisite for the successful prosecution of the business, including a twenty-five-horse power engine,

and the Andrews & Burnap Oil Test churn, by which each man is paid in proportion to the amount of butter produced from the cream he furnishes. During the busy season the creamery gives employment to twenty-three men and teams, and it is anticipated that this force will be greatly enlarged in the near future. The butter is in demand at the local markets, but a large proportion is sent East, where it commands a leading price. The association has invested about \$8,000, and utilizes the refuse in feeding from 100 to 300 head of swine.

Much of the prosperity of the Table Rock Creamery is due to the excellent management of Mr. Sutton. Besides his interest in this he owns a good farm of 160 acres adjacent to the town limits, and is also interested in Holstein cattle, being the first man to introduce this breed in Pawnee County. He has some fine registered animals, and three full-bloods, the first in this county. He keeps about sixty head for dairy purposes, all being well housed and carefully fed. In this, as in all other enterprises, there is requisite a good understanding of the business, and Mr. Sutton is proving himself finely adapted to his calling.

Our subject, who has spent the greater part of his life in the West, was born in Galena, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., April 7, 1844. He lived there until a youth of seventeen years, and soon after the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted in the Union service, Sept. 23, 1861, in an independent battalion called the Fremont Rangers, serving four months. Later he became identified with the 3d Missouri Cavalry, being on the frontier most of the time engaged as a scout. His service ended Jan. 1, 1865, when he received his honorable discharge at Little Rock, Ark.

Upon retiring from the army Mr. Sutton returned to Illinois and engaged in farming one year. Then coming to Nebraska he settled first in Nemaha County, taking up, in March, 1866, 160 acres of land, upon which he labored until 1883, planting forest and fruit trees, building a good house, and adding from time to time other structures necessary for his convenience. Later he sold out and changed his residence to Benton Precinct, whence he came to this county in 1884. Although his sojourn here has been comparatively brief, he

has established himself in the esteem and confidence of his fellow-citizens, as a man of excellent business capacities and undoubted integrity of character. He votes the Republican ticket, and has frequently been sent as a delegate to the various conventions of this county. Socially, he belongs to John N. Gere Post No. 165, G. A. R., at Table Rock.

Miss Sarah J. Flott, of Knox County, Ill., became the wife of our subject March 9, 1868. Five children comprise the household circle, all of whom are living, and are at home with their parents. They are named respectively: John R., Mary B., Maggie E., George D. and Bessie A. They form a bright and intelligent group, are well educated, and will in time enter upon worthy positions in the community. Mrs. Sutton was born in Adams County, Pa., in April, 1844.



**A**LVIN PEPPERL. In this notice we present the record of one of the youngest men represented in this work, he being not yet twenty-five years of age. Such, however, are his natural abilities, his intelligence, industry, and application to business, that he has already attained to a prominent position in his community, and it is predicted for him that in the near future he will rank among the leading men of this county. It is most pleasurable to come in contact with an individual of this character, and one so eminently deserving of special mention. He is a member of the well-known Pepperl family, who have distinguished themselves as among the best citizens of the county, and he is at present operating his farm of 160 acres, which is pleasantly located on section 2 in Plum Creek Precinct. In the sketch of his father, found on another page in this volume, will be noted additional facts relating to the history of the family.

A modest home in the village of Gossawoda, in the Austrian Kingdom of Bohemia, sheltered the first ten years of our subject, and where his birth took place July 20, 1864. He was placed in school when a little lad six years of age, obtaining the first rudiments of a practical education in his native town. His father then decided to seek his

fortunes on the other side of the Atlantic, and after due preparation the family embarked at the port of Bremen on the steamer "Rhine," and after a pleasant voyage of twelve days landed in New York City. Two or three days later found them in Chicago, Ill., where they sojourned about six weeks, then started for the farther West, coming to this county and settling on a tract of land in Plum Creek Precinct.

The Pepperl family were among the leading pioneers of this precinct, and from a tract of unimproved land the father built up a good homestead which is now managed and occupied by his son Louis, and which, lying adjacent to the city of Burchard, is considered one of the most valuable pieces of property in that locality, and it is steadily growing in importance as the city increases in size and population. Upon this farm Alvin grew to manhood, assisting in the labors around the homestead during the seasons of plowing and sowing, and attending school during the winters. He remained under the home roof until twenty-three years old, and then, assisted by his father, purchased the land which he now owns and occupies. Here he partially repeated the experience of his honored sire, building up his farm largely from first principles, and effecting all the improvements which are now upon it. He planted a large area of hedge for fencing, has erected a house and barn, with corn cribs and other necessary structures, set out fruit and forest trees, and has made an admirable beginning toward the establishment of a permanent home. His land is finely located and amply watered by a branch of Wolf Creek. The raising of grain and stock engrosses most of his time and attention, and the success with which he has already met is a fair augury for the future.

Mr. Pepperl, notwithstanding his farm labors have given him ample employment, still takes time for reading, thought and study, and keeps himself thoroughly posted upon matters of general interest. He is a young man who does his own thinking, and after giving the subject due consideration allied himself, politically, with the Union Labor party. Religiously, he is a devout member of the Catholic Church, in the organization of which he assisted, and also in erecting the church edifice.



He is a young man who labors not for self alone, but may always be found aiding the enterprises calculated to advance the interests of his community.



**O**RVILLE DUANE HOWE. One of the finest farms in Table Rock Precinct is that on section 5, embracing an area of 200 acres, upon which Mr. Howe settled on coming to Nebraska in the year 1871, and has since bent his efforts to the building up of a homestead, in which he has most admirably succeeded. He in the year 1879 purchased 160 acres in its uncultivated state, with the exception of ten acres, which had been broken. With the exception of a few stunted trees in the ravine there was nothing upon the land but prairie grass. Twenty years have effected a vast change in the aspect of the property, it being now at all points indicative of the results of industry, combining close attention to the cultivation of the soil with the improvement of the land. There are forest and fruit trees in abundance, Mr. Howe having the largest apple orchard in this vicinity, comprising about 2,500 trees planted over an area of thirty acres, and mostly in good bearing condition. During the season of 1888 he raised 1,300 bushels of apples, besides having a generous quantity for the household. This fruit sold from the farm at fifty cents per bushel, and in town from sixty to seventy-five cents.

In his grain-raising operations Mr. Howe feeds largely of this product to his live stock, embracing numbers of cattle and swine of high grade. During his first few months' sojourn in this county he and his family boarded at Mr. T. W. Pepoon's, his brother-in-law, while Mr. Howe was constructing one of the best houses in the county at that time. It was completed during the latter part of 1871, and they moved into it in May, 1872. Mr. Howe was one of the first men to interest himself in the establishment of a school and has held various local offices. He was appointed County Surveyor in the spring of 1872, first to fill a vacancy; he was then regularly elected and held the position until the year 1879, the duties of which he discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constitu-

ents. In the performance of his duties in connection with this he laid out most of the roads in the county. In the fall and winter of 1871-72 he was Principal of the schools at Falls City, and taught five winters in his own district. In 1879 he was elected County Superintendent of Schools, and by re-election held the office until 1885. In the spring of 1886 he was appointed County Surveyor, and by re-election has held the office ever since.

In noting thus much of the career of Mr. Howe the reader will not be surprised to learn that he is an Ohio man, having been born in the city of Painesville, Sept. 1, 1831. After leaving the district schools he studied at both Oberlin and Hobart Colleges, completing his education in the latter. Upon leaving his native State he followed the profession of a teacher in Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin before coming to Nebraska. He taught a brief season at Mentor, the home of President Garfield, also at Jefferson, in Ashtabula County, Ohio, in Warren, Ill., Sherman, Tex., and Shellsburg, Wis. In the latter he conducted a private school three years. Mr. Howe was previously married in Battle Creek to Mary A. Fenton, who was a relative of Lieut. Gov. Fenton. She lived six years after their marriage and died without children. Subsequently he married Miss Mary E. Pepoon, of Warren, Ill., Dec. 21, 1861. Their only son, Edmund D., was given an excellent education and graduated from the State University at Lincoln, Neb., in 1887. He has inherited much of the talent of his father as an instructor, and is now occupied as a teacher in this county. He was graduated as civil engineer from the university. Myrta E., who also takes kindly to her books, has already been a student of the university, and the intention of her parents is to give her still further educational advantages. These children were prepared for their college course by their parents.

Mrs. Mary E. Howe, the wife of our subject, is also a native of Painesville, Ohio, and born June 26, 1831. Her parents were Silas and Mary W. Pepoon, the former of whom was born at Hebron, Tolland Co., Conn., June 15, 1792, and lived there until a lad twelve years of age. Upon reaching man's estate he married Miss Mary W. Benedict, April 7, 1830, at Morgan, Ashtabula Co., Ohio.



This lady was born July 24, 1810, in New Cansan, Fairfield Co., Conn., and removed to Ohio before her marriage. She became the mother of ten children, seven of whom lived to mature years. Two sons died in the army. The father upon leaving Ohio took up his abode in Jo Daviess County, Ill., in 1850, and died there Jan. 21, 1868, surviving his wife only a few months, her death taking place Aug. 8, 1867. Both were members of the Congregational Church, and "Deacon Pepoon," as he was familiarly called by virtue of his office, was widely and favorably known throughout that region. Capt. Joseph Pepoon, the paternal grandfather, was also a native of Connecticut, and born March 3, 1797. He emigrated to Painesville, Ohio, in 1804, when there was little indication of the present flourishing town. He married Miss Eunice Ayers and they had five children. Further notice of this family will be found in the biography of Hon. J. B. Pepoon elsewhere in this volume.

Further facts in relation to Silas Pepoon are appended as follows: He was the son of Capt. Joseph and Mrs. Eunice Pepoon, who, upon their removal to Ohio, as already stated, located near the present site of Painesville, which was then an unbroken forest. Silas at an early age developed those traits of character which characterized his entire life, namely, a more than ordinary love of truth and a firmness in maintaining his views and opinions, no matter how high the authority by which they were assailed, and he hated oppression in all its forms. While a mere lad he became a member of the Congregational Church, and was also an earnest advocate of the temperance cause, being with his brothers among the first in that region to prosecute farm labor without the use of liquor in harvest time. It was the anti-slavery cause, however, that enlisted his warmest sympathies and which found in him one of the most active helpers from its first beginning to its glorious consummation. He gloried in being recognized as the friend and helper of the famous Theodore Weld, whose lectures in 1835 awoke so much interest and sympathy and also so much fierce opposition. The children of Mr. Pepoon remember many interesting incidents connected with the shelter of hunted fugitive slaves beneath his roof. Once a mother and her family

of little children were hidden away in a chamber, and great were the fears of that poor mother lest some restless little dark head popping up at a window should betray their hiding-place to some slave-catching neighbor before they could be smuggled away at night to Fairport. Mr. Pepoon was never afraid of being in the minority when this seemed to him the honest and consistent course.

Silas Pepoon was one of the few who in 1840 voted for James G. Birney for President and afterward sustained what was then known as the "Liberty party." After his removal to Jo Daviess County, Ill., he and his sons fought anew the anti-slavery battle in that region, given over at that time to pro-slavery Democracy, but which is now, like the Western Reserve, a stronghold of freedom. His five boys later were all in the Union Army, and the youngest, Oren, a noble youth, gave his life to his country.

Suffering many years from diseased lungs, Mr. Pepoon nevertheless exerted himself to speak in public and to otherwise take an active part in the interests of religion and reform until two years before his death. His wife, Mary, was born in Connecticut, July 24, 1810, and they were married in Ohio, April 7, 1830. She, like her husband, was a zealous friend of the oppressed, a sympathetic and active helper of the afflicted, an energetic and useful member of society, and a consistent Christian. Her death was a severe affliction to her husband, who, as before stated, survived her but a few months. Four weeks before his decease he wrote to his daughter: "It is a happy thought that when we leave this world we do not leave all our dear friends; we only change the society of one company for another company equally dear." The family descended from the French Huguenots, and came to America from the Island of Corsica.

Eber D. Howe, the father of our subject, was born June 9, 1798, in the little village of Clifton Park, Saratoga Co., N. Y., near the old battleground where Gen. John Burgoyne surrendered to Gen. Gates in 1777. His father was a native of Long Meadow, Mass., and his mother of Middletown, Conn. In the year 1811 he removed with his parents to Canada, settling eight miles west of the Falls of Niagara. After the battle of Lundy's

Lane, in the War of 1812. Grandfather Howe was detailed and assigned to the charge of the hospital for British prisoners established at Buffalo. Eber acted as his father's assistant. Before this he had officiated as cook for the regimental and staff officers.

After the war Eber Howe entered the office of the *Buffalo Gazette*, then the only newspaper west of Canandaigua, N. Y.; subsequently the *Daily Commercial Advertiser* of the present day emanated from that establishment. In March, 1817, he was sent to assist in the printing of the *Chautauqua Gazette*, which had been established in the village of Fredonia, fifty miles farther west, but after seven months he returned to Buffalo.

In September, 1817, Eber Howe was engaged for one month to assist in putting in operation the first newspaper printed in Erie, Pa., and set most of the type for the first number of the *Erie Gazette*, which is still flourishing. He spent the following winter in Fredonia, and in April started for the West. His possessions then consisted of a horse, saddle, bridle, a valise and \$25 in cash. In four days he arrived at the then village of Cleveland, containing about 200 inhabitants. Here he discovered a paper called the *Cleveland Register*, which had been put in operation the year before, but the type used was so badly worn that the impression was almost illegible. The *Register* was discontinued a few months after the establishment of the *Herald* by Mr. Howe.

In the first number of the *Cleveland Herald* was a very strong remonstrance against the crying evils of American slavery. The first vote of Mr. Howe was cast this year for James Munroe. Two years later he severed his connection with the *Herald*, his partner continuing its publication. In the spring of 1822 he went to Painesville with the view of starting a paper to be called the *Painesville Telegraph*. By this time business prospects began to appear a little more favorable. After many difficulties and trials had been encountered the first number of the *Painesville Telegraph* was sent out on the 16th of July, 1822, with five advertisements and about 150 subscribers.

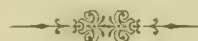
In June, 1822, Eber Howe was married, after a courtship of six years, to Miss Sophia Hull, of

Clarence, N. Y. Her father was from Berkshire County, Mass., a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and settled on the Holland Purchase in 1806. She was one of a family of twelve children, nine daughters and three sons. A woman of perseverance, industry and economy, she was likewise kind and benevolent toward all in her sphere. Her unusually excellent health remained almost entirely unimpaired until about six months before her decease, which was occasioned by a cancerous tumor in the stomach. Mrs. Howe was one of the first to join with her husband in the anti-slavery movement, working equally with him to assist the fugitives from bondage.

In January, 1835, Mr. Howe severed his connection with the *Painesville Telegraph*, and the paper passed into the hands of a younger brother, Asahel, who published it from 1834 to 1841. Mr. Howe resided in Painesville and its immediate vicinity for fifty-six years, and during that period was engaged most of the time in printing and the manufacture of woolen goods. In 1834 he wrote and compiled a book of 290 pages, which was entitled, "Mormonism Unveiled," and which contained a true history of the rise and progress of the sect up to that time.

In 1817 Mr. Howe witnessed the launching of the first steamer that entered the waters of Lake Erie. It was called "Walk-in-the-Water." He spent his eightieth birthday in Nebraska among his children. Religiously, he was a strong believer in Spiritualism. His decease took place Nov. 10, 1885.

In politics Mr. Orville D. Howe was formerly a member of the Free-Soil party, and on the formation of the Republican party became identified with it and a strong supporter of its principles.



GEORGE W. WELCH. There is no section of country in the world more favorable to the breeding of fine stock than the prairies of the West. Under careful cultivation these now yield a rich pasture, and a large proportion of the farming community of this county some time since discovered that this industry was very profitable



and comparatively easy. Among the men who have attained to notoriety in connection herewith, is the subject of this sketch, who holds a position in the front ranks as a breeder of fine horses and cattle. In connection with the first mentioned, he has one of the best Clyde stallions in Southern Nebraska, an imported animal, and also a very valuable imported Cleveland Bay. He is excelled by no man in this part of the country in this department of agriculture. The Short-horn is his favorite breed of cattle.

Montgomery County, Ohio, was the early tramping ground of our subject, and where he first opened his eyes to the light May 25, 1827, and where he was brought up on a farm. There were eight children in his father's family, and but four of whom are now living. The parents, Samuel and Mary (Taylor) Welch, were natives of Ohio, and the father traced his ancestry to the Principality of Wales. He was a farmer by occupation, and was reared to manhood in his native State, where also he was married. Shortly afterward he emigrated to Illinois, settling in Edgar County, where he and his estimable wife spent the remainder of their days. Samuel Welch, however, only lived to be middle aged, dying when our subject was a little lad of seven years. The mother survived her husband a long period, and passed away at her home in Illinois in 1882.

Our subject remained with his mother until reaching man's estate, receiving a common-school education, and becoming familiar with the various employments of the farm. At the age of twenty he started out for himself, working a farm in Edgar County, Ill., but finally repaired to Piatt County, Ill., where he spent some years engaged in farming. In the spring of 1857 we find him on his journey to the farther West, and shortly afterward he established himself on a tract of Government land nine miles southwest of the present site of Pawnee City. It must be remembered that Nebraska was then in its Territorial days. He proved up his first claim of 160 acres, purchased an additional quarter-section, and later became owner of another tract of 120 acres. This latter he presented to his son.

After carrying on general farming a number of years, Mr. Welch turned his attention more exclu-

sively to stock-raising and the feeding of cattle. He removed from his farm to Pawnee City in 1884, since which time he has been quite extensively engaged in the breeding of draft and carriage horses. He is an excellent judge of the equine race, as the result of his transactions testifies.

The 2d of November, 1841, proved to our subject one of the most important days in his life, he then being wedded to Miss Jennett Mallory, of Piatt County, Ill. This lady was born at Harper's Ferry, Va., Oct. 7, 1827, and is the daughter of George and Elizabeth (Hendricks) Mallory, who were also natives of the Old Dominion. Six children in due time gathered around the family board of Mr. and Mrs. Welch. They were named respectively: Mary E., Emma, Silas N., Charles M., Frances and Harriet S. They are all married except Harriet, and are all living in this county.

Notwithstanding his extensive agricultural interests, Mr. Welch during the early days of Pawnee County interested himself in those projects tending for the best welfare of the young community. He was one of the members of the first School Board organized in this precinct, and took the first census, covering a territory which now embraces four precincts. He identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1862, and in political matters invariably gives his support to the principles of the Republican party. He was the first man to introduce blooded draft horses in Pawnee County.



**EDGAR WOOD.** The farming community of Pawnee Precinct numbers among its most active and prominent men the subject of this sketch. He owns and occupies a fine estate on section 1, where he has effected first-class improvements, bringing the soil to a fine state of cultivation, and keeping himself well posted upon the matters appertaining to his calling. He is a man of decided views, prompt to meet his obligations, and one whose opinions are held in general respect.

The fourth in a family of nine children, five daughters and four sons, our subject was born in Medina County, Ohio, March 16, 1845. His parents were Joseph and Julia (Case) Wood, the father



a native of Massachusetts, born in 1818, and the mother a native of New York State, born in 1819. Joseph Wood was a tanner by trade, and emigrated from his native State to New York at an early period in his life. Thence after their marriage the parents removed to Ohio, of which they were residents for a period of twenty-seven years. From there they moved to Marquette County, Wis.; the father died in 1884, while a resident of Iowa, and the mother in 1887.

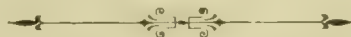
Only five survive of the numerous family of the parents of our subject. He was the fourth in order of birth, and spent his childhood and youth mostly in his native State, mostly receiving his education in the common school. He attended school a short time after the removal of the family to Wisconsin, and remained with his parents until a youth of seventeen, when he left home to enter the army. He enlisted in Company H, 16th Wisconsin Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee under command of Gen. Grant. He took part thereafter in two of the important battles of the war, namely: Shiloh, and the second fight at Corinth, and was wounded by a gunshot through the left cheek, the ball passing through the jaw, knocking out one tooth and resulting in the loss of two others. He was for two days on the battle-field confined in the hospital, and was then taken in charge by a family in Kentucky, who cared for him until he was able to join his regiment six months later.

The plucky youth as soon as recovering from his wounds was ready for another fray, and fought with his comrades not long afterward at the second battle of Corinth. He was destined to meet with disappointment, however, later; his wounds began troubling him and he was ill otherwise. He was accordingly obliged to accept his honorable discharge, being mustered out of service in the fall of 1862. He returned to his home in Wisconsin, and after recovering his health employed himself variously for a time, and finally engaged as cook on a river steamer for a term of three years.

In the twenty-third year of his age our subject was married to Miss Elizabeth, eldest daughter of W. S. Lane, Esq., of Walworth County, Wis. Soon afterward the young couple set out for Nebraska,

and settled on the land comprising the present homestead in Pawnee Precinct. The farm is now 320 acres in extent, and the land has been brought to a good state of cultivation. There is a neat and substantial dwelling, a good barn and the other necessary out-buildings, a fine apple orchard, and trees of the smaller fruit. In his stock operations, an industry to which he has given particular attention in late years, Mr. Wood has attained quite a reputation as a breeder of Hambletonian and Norman horses of high grade. His cattle are Short-horns and his swine Poland-Chinas.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Wood, six in number, were named respectively: William L., Addie, Nellie, Robert, Lilly and Leland. They form a bright and interesting family, and are all at home with their parents. Mr. Wood, socially, belongs to the G. A. R., and in political matters votes the straight Republican ticket. His paternal grandfather, John Wood, carried a musket in the War of 1812; his wife was Miss Mary Warren, a descendant of the noted family of that name. Our subject began his career in Nebraska on forty acres of land, and his present accumulations are the result of his own unaided industry and good judgment. He and his family occupy a high social position, being numbered among the leading residents of this part of the county.



JOHN IZER, a gentleman of much influence and prominence in Mission Creek Precinct, is managing with good financial results a quarter-section of land, which, since it came into his possession, he has placed under excellent improvement, making it one of the most desirable farms in this part of Pawnee County. He devotes much attention to feeding cattle, and his stock consists of high-grade Short-horns.

Our subject was born May 14, 1837, near the town of Unionville, Frederick Co., Md. His father, George Izer, was also born in that county, in August, 1805. His mother, whose maiden name was Rachel Foglesong, was likewise a native of that county, born in May, 1805. John Izer, the grandfather of our subject, was of German descent, but

was born, reared and died in Maryland, where he was for many years engaged in farming. Peter Foglesong, the maternal grandfather of our subject, who was of German descent and of American birth, was a Maryland farmer during the larger part of his life. He was a private in the Revolution. The father of our subject was reared in his native State, and after learning the butcher's trade, opened a shop in Unionville, and also farmed to some extent. In 1871 he removed to Seymour, Ill., engaged in farming there some two years, and then, returning to Maryland, lived retired, having laid up a comfortable competence. His death occurred in Carroll County, in February, 1883. His wife died in 1878. They were both devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and led upright and blameless lives, entitling them to the respect and esteem of those about them. They were the parents of four children, namely: Jeremiah (deceased), John, Barbara and Sarah. Jeremiah was a member of the 7th Maryland Infantry, and near Petersburg, in 1863, was wounded in the leg, and died from the effects of it.

John Izer grew to manhood on his father's Maryland farm, obtaining his education in a school conducted on the pay system. In 1856, when twenty years of age, he left home and sought work on a farm in Monticello, Piatt Co., Ill. He remained there for a few years, and a part of the time rented land. He was in that State when the war broke out, and was among the first to respond to the call for troops, enlisting in April, 1861, in Company C, 21st Illinois Infantry, was mustered into service at Camp Butler, and there spent his three-months term of enlistment; he having no musket could not go into action. He returned to his Illinois home, and Aug. 14, 1862, re-enlisted, in Company C, 107th Illinois Infantry, was mustered into the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 23d Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee. He and his comrades were sent to Kentucky, and took part in the engagements at Elizabethtown, Salina, Lookout Mountain, siege of Knoxville; joined Sherman on his march through Georgia, and were present at the battles of Resaca, Snake Creek Gap, Dallas, Burnt Hickory, Buzzard's Roost, Cumberland Gap, and siege of Atlanta from the 22d to 29th. His regiment was then dispatched to Nash-

ville with Gen. Thomas, engaged in the battle at that point, and then went to Goldsboro, N. C., and from there marched to Raleigh. After Lee's surrender our subject and the remaining members of the 107th Illinois were stationed on guard duty at Salisbury, N. C. They were mustered out in June, 1865, at that point, and went back to Illinois, where they were discharged and paid off at Springfield, July 6.

Mr. Izer, during his long term of service in the army, took part in some of the most hotly contested battles of the war, and gained an honorable reputation for efficiency and courage in the face of danger that showed him to be a good soldier. He contracted rheumatism while in the South, and was disabled for awhile on that account. He then went to work on a farm, and in 1868 bought a tract of uncultivated land in Champaign County, improved it well, and then bought eighty acres adjacent, and in a few years, by assiduous labor, had a highly cultivated farm of 160 acres. He continued farming and stock-raising in the Prairie State until 1882, and in the spring of that year sold out. In the fall of the same year he purchased 160 acres of land in Mission Creek, this county, and in March, 1883, came here by rail and took possession of it. The land was partly improved, but he has since wrought many changes on it, building a substantial house, erecting a windmill, tanks, etc., and in connection with his homestead is operating three-quarters of a section of land in the same precinct. He buys and feeds cattle, as before stated, and ships two carloads of his own stock each year. He has some fine horses, and uses two teams to carry on his farming operations.

To assist him in the upbuilding of this cozy, attractive home, our subject has been blessed by a good wife, to whom he was united in marriage in Seymour, Ill., Nov. 4, 1869. The household circle is completed by the four children born of their union, namely: Anna, Charles, Jannie and Arthur. Two are deceased, George M. and William Franklin, the former dying when ten years of age, and the latter in infancy. Mrs. Izer's maiden name was Sarah Winner, and she was born in Shelby County, Ohio, Feb. 11, 1851.

Mr. Izer acts well his part as a useful citizen, a



kind neighbor, a good husband and a devoted father. He is a man of solid, practical sense, which, with his industrious habits, has contributed largely to his prosperity. He is an open-hearted, genial man, whose admirable traits of character have gained him many warm friends. He is public-spirited and readily contributes to and encourages the various schemes for promoting the advancement of the precinct. As Supervisor of Roads he has labored hard to have good highways, and keep them in fine order. In the affairs of this great Republic, which, as a soldier, he helped to save from disintegration, he is keenly interested, and votes as he fought, to uphold the policy of the Republican party.



**A**SA E. HEYWOOD. Prominent among the very earliest pioneers of Pawnee County is the subject of this brief personal narrative, who has been a property holder here since the fall of 1856, when he settled on the land where he now lives. His homestead comprises 120 acres of arable land, which at that time was in its virgin state, not a furrow having been turned. There was a small log house on the place, occupied by the Hintons, into which he moved, and the following spring he commenced breaking up and improving the land. He has set out a good orchard, fenced his entire farm, and has it now all under good cultivation, excepting fifty acres of fine timber land. In 1859 Mr. Heywood built a good frame house in Table Rock, where he lived for some time, but which he subsequently moved to this place. In 1860 our subject visited Ohio, and on his return freighted farm produce from here to Denver. He afterward bought a ranch twenty-two miles west of Ft. Kearney, on the Platte River, where he carried on an extensive ranch business, furnishing meals and feed for stock, and having stable room for 300 horses. After living there two years he was driven out by the Indians, who stole his property and killed some of his neighbors, he being obliged to evacuate his premises on a few moments' warning. He left on the stage, traveling in it until he met the soldiers, when he returned with them, and for two weeks assisted in

burying the dead and hunting the savages. After leaving Ft. Kearney our subject went to Omaha, thence to White Cloud, Kan., where he engaged for one year in the mercantile business. In 1865 he returned to his homestead, and has since that time devoted himself to agricultural labors. Since coming here Mr. Heywood has had the same obstacles to combat that beset other early settlers of this beautiful State, having been visited by grasshoppers that for two or three years reaped his harvests for him, and having his crops blighted by drouth during the season of the Nebraska-Kansas famine, no rain falling the entire summer with the exception of two slight showers. Our subject, however, felt that he had no grounds for complaint, as he raised twenty bushels of corn to the acre in spite of the unfavorable season. He carries on general farming on an extensive scale, feeding his large annual crop of corn to his cattle.

The subject of this sketch is a native of Ohio, born June 11, 1838, on a farm near Troy, Miami County, where he was reared and educated. Wesley Heywood, the father of our subject, was born in New England, and after living there many years moved to Ohio, where he subsequently met and married as his second wife Miss Amanda Elliott. After a few years of pleasant married life Mr. Heywood died in 1847, leaving his widow with three children. She reared and educated her family by her own efforts for a few years, and then remarried, and subsequently removed to Nebraska, where her death occurred June 30, 1880.

When Asa E. Heywood, of whom we write, came to this county he was accompanied by his mother, his stepfather Nathan Heywood, one brother, one sister and two half-sisters. The sister and brother have since died, he being the only surviving member of the family of Wesley Heywood. For the greater part of the time since making his home in this precinct Mr. Heywood has taken a prominent part in educational matters, having been Moderator of the school district, and one of the men who assisted in building the present school-house. Previous to its erection the only schools in the precinct were one taught by Mrs. Ball of this district in a log house of her own, and one taught by Miss Frances J. Mumford (now the wife of our sub-



ject) in the village of Table Rock, in a log school-house that had formerly been used as a dwelling, that being one of the first schools in the county. It was a select school where each pupil paid his own tuition; she had thirty scholars enrolled, and made \$25 a month. Mrs. Heywood while a young lady was a student of Arrow Rock prior to teaching in Table Rock. She gave up the calling of teacher to become the wife of our subject. Their marriage was consummated April 17, 1860. She is a native of Wayne County, Pa., born March 16, 1839. Jerry Mumford, her great-grandfather, was one of the very earliest settlers of Wayne County, where he spent his last years. His son Thomas, grandfather of Mrs. Heywood, spent his entire life in that county, and there his son Martin J., the father of Mrs. Heywood, was born Feb. 26, 1808, in Mt. Pleasant Township. He was reared and educated in his native town, receiving a good education, and teaching school there until twenty-two years of age. He then moved to Susquehanna County, where he married, in July, 1829, Miss Maria Tracy, by whom he had twelve children, five of whom grew to maturity, and three are still living. Mr. Mumford settled on a farm in that county, and remained there until 1856, when he disposed of his property and came to Nebraska with his family. He became one of the original settlers of Table Rock Precinct, and at once identified himself with its interests, taking a prominent part in public affairs. He was the first Justice of the Peace ever elected in that part of the county, and held the office for thirty years, from 1856 to 1886. He served as County Assessor for one year, and has also been a conveyancer. He is a worthy representative of the stalwart pioneers of the early days, who, with their energetic and industrious characteristics, sound common sense and excellent business tact, have so well advanced the interests of their communities. He has retired from the active labors of life, having by assiduous toil amassed a sufficient sum to enable him to spend the remainder of his years free from care. Mrs. Mumford, who died Feb. 23, 1885, was born in Connecticut, Nov. 18, 1801, and is the daughter of Jeremiah Tracy, a farmer of that State, who subsequently moved to Wayne County, Pa. Both Mr. and Mrs.

Mumford communed at the Methodist Episcopal Church after coming to Nebraska, although in Pennsylvania they had been members of the Presbyterian Church.

The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed by the birth of eight children, four of whom are living, namely: Albert L. was married, Jan. 10, 1889, to Miss Mary A. Harrison, and they reside in Table Rock Precinct; Elliot M., Katie M. and Wilma. The three latter are at home and are receiving the benefit of a good education.

During his long career as a pioneer and citizen of Pawnee County our subject has ever displayed most excellent business qualities and discriminating judgment, and has proved a most valuable counselor in all matters pertaining to the welfare of this township. Both he and his wife are people of high consideration in social circles, and are much esteemed for their courtesy and geniality. Politically, Mr. Heywood formerly was a Republican, but is now a Prohibitionist.



**G**EORGE W. COLLINS. The medical fraternity of Pawnee City recognizes in the subject of this record one of its most worthy and efficient representatives. Like many of his compeers, he emanated from the Prairie State, having been born in Grundy County, June 26, 1837. Theron Collins, his father, was a native of New York State, born in Dutchess County, in 1809. The mother, whose maiden name was Van Dalfsen, was also born in New York State. The paternal grandfather, Joshua Collins, was also a native of the Empire State, and of Irish extraction. The Van Dalfsens originated in Holland.

Theron Collins in his early life followed the sea a period of twenty years, but finally settled upon terra firma, and carried on farming a number of years in Grundy County, Ill. He finally crossed the Mississippi into Kansas, where his death took place at Parsons, in 1883. The wife and mother survived her husband two years, her death taking place also at Parsons. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters, all of whom are living. George W. was the second born, and after

leaving the primary schools entered the academic department of Lombard University, where he completed a thorough course of instruction and developed into a teacher. He followed this profession four years while at the university.

Upon retiring from the duties above mentioned Dr. Collins began the study of law in the office of W. W. Stevens, of Joliet, Ill., and was admitted to the bar in the Supreme Court of Illinois. He also attended a course in the Chicago University. In the fall of 1865 he came to Pawnee City, and thereafter for a period of ten years gave close attention to the practice of law. He had also in the meantime given much attention to the study of medicine, while pursuing his law studies, and his researches in this direction induced him to look favorably upon the homeopathic system of practice. He is now in the enjoyment of a generous patronage, having all the calls to which he can possibly give attention.

Our subject while a resident of Illinois established matrimonial and domestic ties, being united in marriage with Miss May J. Randall, of Grundy County. This lady became the mother of four children, one of whom, George W., died at the age of four years. The survivors are Edward L., Hattie V. and Kate A. To his present wife, who was formerly Miss Anna Agnew, he was married in Pawnee City, in 1873, and they have three children—Maggie L., Walter H. and Glenn W.

The excellent medical capacity and integrity of Dr. Collins have received ample recognition from his fellow-citizens in his selection for various offices of trust and responsibility. He was, in 1870, elected to represent Pawnee County in the Nebraska Legislature, which position he filled acceptably two years, and later was elected Speaker of the House. In respect to political issues he is classed with the Republican party, and was one of the Presidential Electors in the campaign of 1880, at the time of the candidacy of Garfield and Arthur. He has frequently officiated as Chairman of important committees and as a delegate to the various conventions of his party. In religious matters he belongs to the Presbyterian Church, and socially, is a member of Pawnee Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M.; Kearney Chapter, R. A., and Mt. Hebron Commandery No. 12, K. T. He has

stumped the State twice in the interest of his party, once for Garfield and upon another occasion for E. K. Valentine, the Republican candidate for Congress from the Third District.



**B**ENJAMIN HEER. Among the early settlers of Pawnee County, who by their enterprise, thrift and good business ability, have added largely to the development and progress of the several townships, are many who were born in an Empire across the sea and sought independence in the territory protected by the stars and stripes. Prominent among the number is the subject of this sketch, who is a native of Germany, born Aug. 20, 1844. He is a son of John Heer, who still lives, and carries on farming in the Fatherland.

Under the strict school laws of his native land our subject obtained a good education, and from his father practical instruction in tilling the soil. At the age of twenty years he determined to emigrate to America and see what life had to offer to him in this country, and coming to the United States he made Illinois his first stopping place. He remained in that State about three years, and then sought new fields of labor in Nebraska, and for some years was employed in a nursery in Brownville. During this time our subject worked steadily, and by prudence, economy and thrift saved some money, and became the owner of forty acres of land in Richardson County. Disposing of that in 1878 Mr. Heer came to Pawnee County, and pre-empted eighty acres of wild prairie land on section 16 of Table Rock Precinct. He at once began breaking up the land and developing a farm, one of his first improvements having been to build a substantial house 16x20 feet, it being decidedly better than the average dwelling of the early settlers of the State. By his energy, industry and perseverance, coupled with good business tact and sagacious judgment, our subject has since made many other improvements, having set out an orchard and forest trees, added another tract of land adjoining his original claim, and has now a fine, rich and productive farm of 120 acres, second to none of its size in the locality.

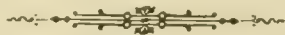


He has it well fenced, and has erected good out-buildings, stable and barn, and has all the appliances for carrying on general farming and stock-raising. He pays considerable attention to the latter branch of agriculture, and has a fine lot of cattle and hogs.

In all public affairs Mr. Heer evinces a good deal of interest, especially in matters relating to the training and education of the young, and when building the school-house in his district, No. 49, his fellow-citizens found no one more willing to assist, and for seven years thereafter he served with ability as Treasurer of the district. In politics our subject is a stanch Republican, firmly upholding the principles of that party. He is an honest, honorable man in every particular, one whose word is as good as his bond, and as such he has the esteem and goodwill of the entire community in which he resides.

Mr. Heer has been twice married. His first wife, to whom he was married in 1871, was Miss Mary F. Buck, of Richardson County. After a happy married life of four years she passed away, leaving two children, John and Katie. The second union of our subject, which occurred in September, 1878, was to Miss Martha McNeil, of this county. She is a native of Missouri, born Dec. 31, 1855, and is a daughter of William and Ellen McNeil, who reared a large family of children, and moved some years ago from Missouri to this State.

Of this marriage seven children have been born to our subject and his wife, six of whom are still living, namely: Marion, Aloise, Ellis, Charles, Frank and Nancy T. M.



**C**HARLES NEADER, an industrious, progressive and practical farmer of Sheridan Precinct, may well be called a pioneer of Pawnee County, notwithstanding that he was a lad when he came here in 1868, as he has greatly assisted in its development. He is of German lineage, born in Boone County, Mo., Dec. 30, 1859. His father, William Neader, was a native of Germany, and when a young man came to America, settling in Illinois, whence he removed to Rockport, Mo. Living there until 1861, he at that time returned East as far as Illinois, and for some

years was a resident of that State. In 1868 he removed to this State, and first located in Sheridan Precinct, where he rented a small farm. He subsequently engaged in farming in Clear Creek Precinct, remaining there until his death. He was a man of sterling worth, whose honesty, integrity and probity justly entitled him to the high respect in which he was held by all. The maiden name of his wife, mother of our subject, was Martha Shadham. She was born in Virginia. To her and the father of our subject there were born seven children, six of whom are now living. The mother of our subject is now living in Idaho, she having married a Mr. Wicks, and subsequently moved to that Territory.

Charles Neader was but two years of age when his parents moved to Illinois, and a boy of eight years when he came to this county, where he has since lived, this being practically the only home he has known. Here he received his education in the public schools of the township, in the intervals of school attendance assisting his father in the labors on the farm. While living in Clear Creek Precinct our subject had the misfortune to lose his father, and being the eldest of the children, the support of the family depended on him and his mother. He bravely shouldered his share of the burden, and being a lad of more than ordinary courage, manliness and self-reliance, he was of great assistance in providing for the wants of the household. He remained on the farm which his father had rented until 1883, when he purchased his present homestead, consisting of eighty acres of rich and fertile land on section 23, Sheridan Precinct. Not having sufficient ready money to make a cash payment of \$2,100, Mr. Neader has labored hard, and, with excellent management, has been enabled to make the payments as they fell due, and now has the farm nearly cleared from indebtedness. The land at the time of the purchase was partly improved, groves of forest trees and an orchard having been set out, and our subject has in the interim made many other valuable improvements, having it now well fenced and under a good state of cultivation. Mr. Neader is interested in stock-raising, and has already started a herd on his farm. He is one of the promoters of the new system of dehorn-



ing cattle, and having the instruments for so doing, has dehorned his own and those of many other farmers in the vicinity.

Mr. Neader was united in marriage to Miss Louisa Fellers, Dec. 28, 1882. Mrs. Neader was born not one mile from her present home, in Pawnee County, Aug. 12, 1864, and is a daughter of Andrew Fellers, a well-known pioneer of Table Rock. To gladden the hearts and brighten the home of our subject and his wife have come two children, Frank and Katie.

Mr. Neader is a wide-awake, public-spirited citizen, ready and willing to advance all worthy enterprises for the benefit of his township. He is doing efficient service in the cause of local education as Moderator of this district. In politics he is one of the most earnest supporters of the Republican party. He is a generous, high-minded man, careful and considerate in his dealings with others, and, with his estimable wife, occupies a position of social prominence in this community.



**H**UBBARD S. JENKINS. The profession of builder and contractor is one of the most important in the industrial world, and of this the gentleman whose name introduces this sketch is a most finished and reliable representative. He cast his lot with the people of the Far West June 12, 1856, and has sojourned in Nebraska since that time, but for six years was temporarily absent for shorter or longer periods fighting across the plains, making fourteen round trips to Denver.

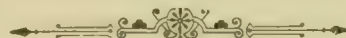
Madison County, N. Y., was the early tramping ground of our subject, where his birth took place June 12, 1833. The family of his parents, Robert and Laura C. (Coley) Jenkins, consisted of six children, of whom our subject was the fourth in order of birth, and of whom five survive. Robert Jenkins was a carpenter by trade, and the parents, leaving the Empire State in 1843, took up their abode in Morgan County, Ill. Our subject there remained a member of the parental household until attaining his majority, in the meantime learning

the trade of carpenter. Two years later, in May of 1856, he crossed the Father of Waters, and until 1859 carried on farming in Table Rock Precinct, this county. It is hardly necessary to say that this region at that period was peopled by only a few adventurous settlers. Markets and mills were remote, and the pioneer agriculturist experienced all the difficulties of life in a new country.

Young Jenkins in November of the year above mentioned determined to push on toward the Pacific, and accordingly crossed the plains and for six years was engaged in freighting, as above stated. He then resumed work at his trade at Table Rock, from the year 1867 to 1869. He had been married, on the 14th of September, 1854, in Waterloo, Ill., to Miss Louise Horine, who was born Feb. 3, 1837, the daughter of Matthew T. and Mary (Bryant) Horine, who were natives of Kentucky and Ohio respectively. Both are now deceased. They have four children living, namely: Frank Albert, a resident of San Francisco, Cal., and occupied as a harness-maker; Clarence Morrison, in Sioux City, a tobacconist; Nellie and Jessie L. are at home. Willie died in Illinois; May died in Nebraska; Mathias H. died at Lincoln in 1886.

The principles of the Democratic party Mr. Jenkins claims are good enough for him, while in social matters he is identified with Interior Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F. Otherwise than serving as a Judge of Elections, he has carefully avoided the responsibilities of office.

David W. Bryant, grandfather of Mrs. J., and cousin of William Cullen Bryant, was a Colonel in the Black Hawk War.



**G**EORGE W. DAVENPORT forms one of the leading representatives of the real-estate and insurance business in Pawnee City, in which he established himself in 1883. During his six years' residence here he has also established himself in the esteem and confidence of the people, and is filling his niche worthily as an exponent of some of its most important business interests.

The Empire State furnished to our subject his first impressions of human life, he having been born

there April 13, 1843. He was the fifth in a family of seven children, all of whom with one exception are living. That one was a favorite brother who surrendered his life in his country's cause during the late war. The father, Elijah J. Davenport, also a native of New York State, was born in 1816, and is still living, being a resident of this county. During the active years of his life he was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and was quite prominent in his native county, serving as Sheriff, a post for which he was peculiarly well fitted, being of strong and courageous disposition and resolute spirit. He had many a tussle with the rough element of Putnam and adjoining counties.

Mrs. Phebe A. (Haight) Davenport, the mother of our subject, was a native of the same State as her husband and son, and the daughter of George Haight. The Davenport family removed to Illinois, where they lived seven years, and in the fall of 1858 came to this county, settling on a tract of land ten miles southeast of Pawnee City, near the town of DuBois. The boyhood days of our subject were spent in Illinois and Nebraska, in each of which he attended the district school, and when not engaged at his books assisted his parents around the homestead. His business career began in the grocery business there with the firm of Shellhorn Bros., general merchants, and he was engaged in trade until 1885, spending in the meantime one year in Kansas. He became interested in the insurance business in 1885, as the agent of some of the best companies in the East.

The year 1864 marked a very interesting epoch in the life of our subject, namely, his marriage with Miss Mary J. Shellhorn, which was celebrated at the home of the bride in Richardson County. They are now the parents of nine children, namely: Charles R., Edward J., Lizzie P., William A., Mamie M., Eva A., J. Guy, Bessie I. and Hallie. Mr. Davenport, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and socially, belongs to Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F., also the Encampment of the same order, the Modern Woodmen and the G. A. R.

The outbreak of the Civil War found our subject one of those most ready to respond to the call for troops, he becoming in 1862 a member of Company G, 2d Nebraska Cavalry, the duty of which con-

sisted in guarding the frontier from the depredations of the Indians. He fought the savages at White Stone Hill, near Devil's Lake and other places, and his brother Charles, who was a member of the same regiment, was shot by an Indian. Mr. D. served throughout his full time, and received his honorable discharge in 1864.



JOSEPH B. BROOKS, Clerk of the District Court, and having his headquarters in Pawnee City, impresses the average citizen as a man of more than ordinary ability, and one who takes pride in the conscientious performance of his duties. His native State is Ohio, and he was born in Highland County, near the town of Hillsboro, the county seat, June 1, 1841. Of the six children comprising the family of his parents only two are now living, his sister being a resident of Fayette County, Ohio.

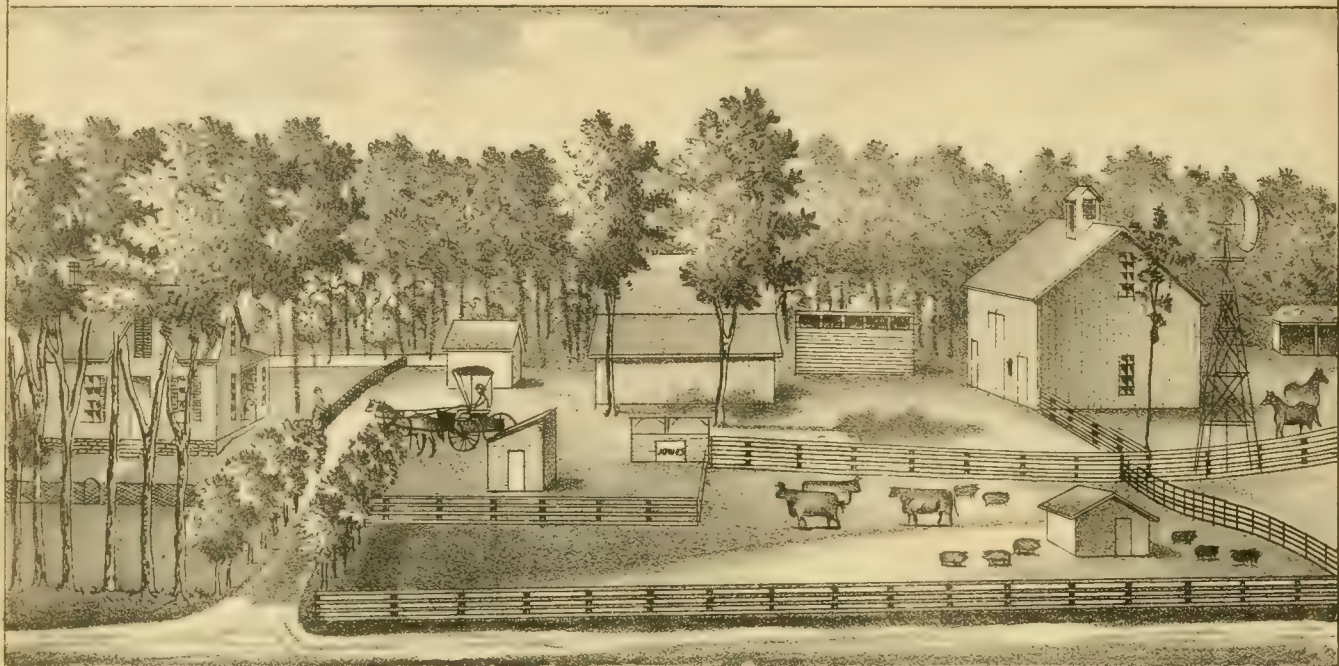
Ansel and Ann (Smith) Brooks were natives respectively of Vermont and North Carolina. The maternal grandfather of our subject was Moses Smith, who settled in the Scioto Valley while the Indians still lingered in that region. Ansel Brooks was born in 1816, in Vermont, and his wife, Ann, in 1814. The former officiated as a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church from 1838 to 1881. He is still living, and a resident of Good Hope, Fayette Co., Ohio. The mother is deceased.

The subject of this sketch spent his boyhood in Highland and Ross Counties, Ohio, attending first the district school and then becoming a student of South Salem Academy, where he attended about one year. Later he occupied himself as a teacher for several winters following. He turned his steps westward in 1870, and sojourned for a time at Marshalltown, Iowa, in the employ of the Iowa Central Railroad Company, in the construction of their telegraph line from Albia to Northwood. In 1872 he migrated to Iola, Kan., and was engaged some time at the drug business. Later we find him in Troy, Kan., and in 1880 he came to Nebraska, and entered the employ of J. M. Spates, of Pawnee City, as clerk in a drug-store.

During these years Mr. Brooks had made the







Residence of William E. Root, Sec. 32. Mission Creek Precinct.



Residence of W. H. McIntock, Sec. 13. Pawnee Precinct.

most of his time and opportunities, and had attracted the attention of his fellow-citizens by his faithful application to business. In 1887 he was elected Clerk of the District Court, and assumed the duties of his office January 17 following. While a resident of Iola, Kan., our subject was united in marriage with Miss Maggie M. Brisbin, who was born in Ohio, and who died in 1880, leaving one son, Earl B. Mr. Brooks contracted a second marriage, in 1885, with Miss Ora E., daughter of John E. Himiller, of Greenfield, Ohio. Politically, he is a staunch Republican, and socially, belongs to Pawnee Lodge No. 23, A. F. & A. M., also to Interior Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F. During the Civil War he enlisted under the call for the first 75,000 troops, serving his term and receiving his honorable discharge; he then re-enlisted in the three years' service, in Company C, 73d Ohio Infantry. His regiment was sent to West Virginia and they fought with the Army of the Potomac under Gen. Sigel, taking part in the battle of Bull Run. Mr. Brooks was afterward at Gettysburg, and thence transferred to Chattanooga, Tenn. Afterward he accompanied Sherman in his southeastern campaign, then up through the Carolinas to Washington, there taking part in the grand review. Thence he was sent to Louisville, Ky., where he was mustered out and soon afterward returned home. His army record is creditable in the extreme, and during that time he enjoyed the respect of his comrades and the approval of his superior officers.



**W**ILLIAM E. ROOT, a wealthy and influential member of the farming community of Mission Creek Precinct, has met with more than average success in his agricultural ventures, and owns a farm which, in point of improvement and productiveness, is classed among the very best estates in Pawnee County. It comprises 160 acres on section 32 in his home farm, and eighty acres over the State line in Kansas, admirably adapted to mixed husbandry, and our subject has devoted considerable time to raising stock, and has a fine, well-kept herd of Short-horns, eight head of horses of good strain, and a number of high-grade hogs.

When he came to Mission Creek, in the spring of 1880, he purchased his present homestead, then consisting of 160 acres of partly improved land. By persistent and well-directed labor he has since wrought a great change; has fenced his land in hedge and wire; has planted six acres of groves, and an orchard of 100 choice fruit trees; has erected a commodious dwelling and good barns, one of them, 30x50 feet, the largest in the precinct; has large corn cribs, granary, windmill, tanks, etc., and has an ample supply of the most approved farm machinery. He has been very extensively engaged in agriculture, and at one time owned 640 acres of land, but he has deeded all but 160 acres of his Nebraska estate to his boys, retaining also the eighty acres of land in Kansas.

Our subject is a lineal descendant of a fine old New England family that originated in England, three brothers of the name coming to this country from their ancestral English home in Puritan days, and casting in their lot with the colonists on American soil. The paternal grandfather of our subject was born in Connecticut, and at some period of his life became an early settler of Buffalo, N. Y. He was there during the War of 1812, and his property was destroyed by fire. He died in 1816. His son Jesse, the father of our subject, was born in Connecticut. He moved to Buffalo, N. Y., in 1811, and during the War of 1812 enlisted, when but eighteen years of age, in the Quartermaster's department, and was engaged in carrying dispatches, etc. Mr. Root after his retirement from the army at the close of the war returned to Hebron, Conn., with an ox-team, and then went back to New York and worked for awhile in the town of Geddes. In March, 1815, he moved to the wilderness in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, and purchasing a tract of Government land, cleared forty acres of it and engaged in farming and stock-raising there a number of years. In 1822 he was married in that State to Miss Sally A. Scofield, a native of New York City. Her father, Benjamin Scofield, was a carpenter by trade, and a resident of New York City. Later in life he became a pioneer of Ohio, settling near Cleveland, and there he died in 1848, at the age of sixty-three years. In 1832, after a happy wedded life of ten years, Mr. Root had the



misfortune to lose his wife, who had been a faithful helpmate and a loving mother to their children, of whom they had seven, as follows: Louisa, Clarinda, Caroline, Andrew J., all deceased; William, Sally A. and Julia A. (twins), still surviving. In 1874 Mr. Root moved from his pioneer home to Fayette, Ohio, and there lived in retirement until his death the following year, on the 14th day of January. He was a man of unblemished honor, tender feeling, and of more than average vigor of mind, and left to his children and grandchildren the precious legacy of a good life. He was a sincere Christian, and a member of the Baptist Church. No one ever appealed to him in vain for help or sympathy, and as an earnest Abolitionist he was especially active in behalf of the slave, and his house was a station for the "underground railway."

The subject of this sketch was born near Strongsville, Ohio, May 30, 1825. He there grew to man's estate on his father's farm, receiving in the meantime very good school advantages. In 1845 he went to Peoria, Ill., by way of Chicago, and there worked by the month at farming, and also engaged in teaching. He subsequently took up his residence in Henry County, the same State, buying Government land near Cambridge, and improved it. In the years following he developed one of the finest farms in that part of the country, and carried on farming and stock-raising there until 1879. He then wound up his affairs in that State, having decided to seek a home on the fertile soil and under the sunny skies of Nebraska, and in October of that year removed with a team to Pawnee City. He wintered on West Branch Creek, and in March, 1880, came to his present place of residence, as before mentioned.

October 1, 1854, in the town of Princeville, Peoria Co., Ill., the marriage of our subject to Miss Delilah J. Slane was celebrated. Mrs. Root was the second white child born in Ft. Clark, Peoria Co., Ill., her birth occurring March 26, 1832. She is derived from an excellent family, and her parents, Benjamin and Delilah (Chisier) Slane, were natives of Hampshire County, Va., her father born April 22, 1790, and her mother Feb. 12, 1800. Her paternal grandfather, a native of Ireland, settled in Virginia some time during the last century, and

was a prosperous planter there for many years, owning a large plantation, and there he spent his last days. Her maternal grandfather was also a Virginia planter. Mrs. Root's parents were reared and married in Virginia, their union taking place in 1824. Her father was a tanner by trade, and subsequent to his marriage he moved to Ohio, locating near Zanesville. He was there but a short time, however, before he was attracted to the newer State of Illinois, and in November, 1831, arrived at Ft. Clark, and became one of the very first settlers in Peoria County. He bought a tract of wild land, and improved 160 acres into a good farm. He afterward moved to Princeville, in the same county, and was actively engaged in agricultural pursuits there for many years, his death occurring there April 29, 1875. His wife died many years before, the date of her death being June 25, 1839. To them seven children had been born, namely: Benjamin F., John Z., Elizabeth A., Delilah J., Samuel S., James T., and a child who died in infancy. John took part in the late war as a member of the 86th Illinois Infantry, Company K, was mustered in at Peoria in 1862, and served until after the close of the Rebellion. Mr. Slane was a prominent citizen of Peoria County, and took an active part in the administration of local affairs, serving as Supervisor of his township, and for twenty-five years held the office of Justice of the Peace. He was a strong Democrat in his political views.

The subject of this sketch is a high-minded, whole-souled man, who has ever shown a progressive and liberal spirit. He is always genial and helpful toward others, and is true in all the relations of life, as husband, father, neighbor and citizen. Politically, he was in early life an Abolitionist, then united with the Republicans, but now takes his stand with the people's ticket, and has represented his party in county conventions. He does not aspire to office. He has served on both the Grand and Petit Juries. He united with the I. O. O. F. at Princeville, Ill. Religiously, he is a free-thinker, and holds advanced views concerning the duties of life and of immortality. Mrs. Root is a firm believer in the Universalist faith. She is a woman of a cheery, warm-hearted disposition, whose pleasant ways have attracted to her



many firm friends. She is very intelligent and well informed, and a good conversationalist. Mr. and Mrs. Root have one of the most attractive and cozy homes in Mission Creek, and there they dispense a charming hospitality to the friend or stranger who happens beneath its roof. The following is recorded of the five children who have been born to them: Albert O. is married and farming in Marshall County, Kan.; Caroline J. is deceased; Waldo J. is engaged in the hay business in Falls City; John S. is farming in Kansas, and Charley Grant is deceased. The fine home of Mr. Root is shown in an excellent view on another page of this volume.



**WILLIAM McCLINTOCK.** One of the most beautiful farms in Pawnee Precinct belongs to the subject of this sketch, who took up his abode in Nebraska in June, 1856. Of Irish birth and ancestry, he was born near the city of Londonderry, in County Donegal, March 16, 1816, and was the fourth in a family of seven children, consisting of four sons and three daughters. Of these four are still living. The father, Samuel McClintock, carried on farming considerably, and was a manufacturer of linen. The mother, whose maiden name was Jane Rankin, was a native of the same locality as her husband, and both spent their entire lives upon their native soil.

William McClintock was reared in County Donegal, receiving a common-school education, and remaining with his parents until reaching his nineteenth year. He had from his boyhood been a youth thoughtful beyond his years, and determined to become a man among men. He saw little prospect of attaining a competence in his native Ireland, and accordingly made up his mind to emigrate to America. With a limited amount of capital, he gathered together his few personal effects, and bidding adieu to the friends of his childhood, embarked on a sailing-vessel at Londonderry, and landed in the city of Philadelphia nine weeks later.

In the Quaker City our subject occupied himself at farming a number of years, and was then seized

with a fit of homesickness which induced him to recross the Atlantic and spend a year among his friends. At the expiration of this time he came back to the United States, taking up his residence in the city of Baltimore. Later he started out for the West, and settled in Knox County, Ill., where he occupied himself at farming. In due time he met his fate in the person of Mrs. Sarah Griffiee, a native of Kentucky, and they were married Sept. 30, 1852. Mrs. McClintock had accompanied her parents to Illinois when a girl eight years of age. The latter were Reuben and Libby (Atkins) Bandy, who spent their last days in Illinois.

Mr. and Mrs. McClintock after their marriage moved across the Mississippi into Des Moines County, Iowa, and lived there eighteen months on a farm. They then decided to push farther westward, and in June, 1856, came to this county, settling on their present farm on Taylor Branch. It then bore little resemblance to its present state, being a wild, uncultivated tract upon which there had been no attempt at improvement. Mr. McClintock first purchased 160 acres, then homesteaded the quarter-section adjoining. Their first dwelling was a log cabin 14x16 feet in dimensions, in which they spent twenty years. Our subject operated in the same manner by which his brother pioneers built up their homesteads, enduring many difficulties and hardships, but in due time found himself upon solid ground, and in the enjoyment of a comfortable income. He brought his land to a good state of cultivation, and finally turned his attention more exclusively to stock-raising, making a specialty of high-grade Poland-China swine, which industry has been the source of a handsome income to him.

Seven children came to the fireside of our subject and his excellent wife, the eldest of whom, Mary J., is now the wife of Frank Monegan, of Kansas; Alexander is married; Winfield S. is living at home; Anna is the wife of Frank Barnett, of Iowa; Lena married William Benington, of Sherman County, Kan.; Alice died when very young, and Samuel died at the age of nineteen years. Mr. McC. assisted in the organization of the county, when it took all of the voting citizens to fill the offices. He has always maintained a warm interest in the pros-

perity of his adopted county, encouraging by his influence and more substantial means the various projects set on foot for its advancement.

Both Mr. McClintock and his estimable wife are member of the Old School Presbyterian Church, and attend services at Pawnee City. He was formerly identified with the Republican party, but now votes independently, aiming to support the men whom he considers best qualified to serve the interests of the people. For a man who arrived in Nebraska with a capital of \$1.50 it must be admitted that he has come out of the conflict with flying colors. Mrs. McClintock was first married to Jerett Griffiee. The fine residence of Mr. McClintock is shown on another page in this ALBUM.



**H**ON. CHAUNCEY H. NORRIS, a prominent merchant of Pawnee County, occupies a leading position among the influential and honored citizens of Table Rock, where he is engaged in the mercantile business, being an extensive dealer in dry-goods, groceries and general merchandise. He is also the possessor of a fine farm of 410 acres in Sheridan Precinct, 250 acres of it lying on section 5, and the other 160 acres of it lying on the northwest part of section 4, using the whole of it principally for pasturage and grazing, and on the place keeping about 100 head of cattle.

Our subject was born in Canton, Ill., Jan. 17, 1836. His father, Timothy Norris, was born in New Hampshire, in April, 1806. He grew up among the rugged rocks and hills of the Granite State, living there until eighteen years of age, when, having a strong desire to see more of the world, he went to New York City, and there learned the trade of a stone-cutter. In 1833, at the time of the cholera epidemic in New York, Mr. Norris visited Ohio, staying there a few months. Then, after spending the following year in New York City, he left it permanently, in the year 1835, again going to Ohio, thence proceeding the same year to Illinois, where he settled and spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1852. The maiden name of his wife, to whom he was married in Ohio, was

Emeline Turney, who survived him and came to Nebraska, dying here in 1882. She was a most estimable woman, and a valued member of the Episcopal Church during the last years of her life, though formerly a Congregationalist. To her and her husband were born seven children, four of whom are still living.

Chauncey H. Norris, of whom we write, was educated in the public schools of his native town, receiving good instruction in the branches taught. In 1858 he came to Nebraska, and for four months was engaged as a clerk in a store in Falls City, Richardson County, and then went back to his native State. Not being quite satisfied with his chances in Illinois, Mr. Norris came here again in 1859, and, bringing with him a stock of merchandise from St. Louis, opened a store in Table Rock, the first permanent one of the kind in the county, although two others had been operated for a short time prior to his coming. There were but few settlers here, and the trade not being sufficient to sustain the store, our subject removed to Falls City, where he remained until 1862, engaged in the same business. In November of that year he sold out his stock of goods, and enlisted in the 2d Nebraska Cavalry, to assist in protecting the frontier against the ravages of the Indians, being mustered in as First Lieutenant of Company G. His regiment, under command of Gen. Alfred Sulley, served principally along the Missouri and in Dakota, having been sent to that Territory for the purpose of punishing the Sioux Indians. Lieut. Norris was in a severe engagement in the White Stone Hills, Sept. 3, 1863, many being killed and wounded in that battle. In October the regiment was ordered to Omaha, where, his term of enlistment having expired, our subject was honorably discharged, December 14 of that year. He next engaged in buying and shipping stock, but not finding that sufficiently remunerative, in 1865, he bought a one-half interest in his old stock of goods, and continued in business, in partnership with D. R. Holt, until February, 1866, when a severe fire visited the town, and their store was burned. Mr. Norris subsequently procured the appointment of United States Agent for the Sac and Fox Indians of Iowa, with headquarters at the Great Nemaha agency,

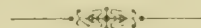


serving acceptably as such until June, 1869, when the Quaker policy went into effect and his services were no longer needed. Our subject again entered the mercantile trade in Table Rock, opening a general store in the latter part of 1869, the only one here for three or four years, and has since carried on a flourishing trade, his establishment being the most extensive store of general merchandise in the town. He is a popular merchant, ever courteous and attentive to his customers, having the reputation of being honest and square dealing in all business transactions, and is highly esteemed for his manly and sterling character. In 1869 Mr. Norris was appointed Postmaster for Table Rock, the office then paying only \$7 a quarter, and he retained it until the salary had increased to \$65 a quarter. To his sagacity, enterprise and forethought much of the town's progress and present prosperity are due, he having been prominent in forwarding all schemes for its advancement, either social, industrial or educational. He was one of the original stockholders of the Table Rock Creamery, selling his shares only recently.

Mr. Norris rendered efficient aid in elevating the standard of the schools of the precinct, during his faithful service of nine years on the School Board, from which he retired at his own desire, refusing reelection. It was largely through the instrumentality of our subject that the Atchison & Nebraska Railway passes through here, he having assisted in procuring the right of way through Pawnee County. He has not only served with acceptance to all in local offices, but has also served with credit in State affairs. In 1884 he was elected to the State Senate, and while there formed one on the following committees: On Immigration, Public Printing, Accounts and Expenditures, and on Miscellaneous Corporations, having been Chairman of the latter. He also introduced a bill into the Senate to allow the submission of the prohibition question. In 1886 Mr. Norris was elected to the State Legislature, and also served there with distinction.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Fannie C. Giddings, of Table Rock, was celebrated March 1, 1860. Mrs. Norris is a native of New York, born in the town of Greene. Her father, Charles W. Giddings, was born in Connecticut, and mar-

ried Miss Clarissa Griffing, of Owego, N. Y., by whom he had seven children, four of whom are yet living. Mr. and Mrs. Giddings remained in New York State some years after their marriage, and then moved to Pennsylvania, and thence came to this State in April, 1858. Mr. Giddings was one of the original settlers of Table Rock, and gave the town its name from a rock of peculiar formation which is located on the farm of Joel Harrison. He engaged in farming until his death, in December, 1879. His estimable wife survived him but a few months, dying in October, 1880. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of ten children, eight of whom are still living, namely: Charles, Clara, Sue, Frank, Royal, Horace L., Clinton C. and Lydia G. Clara married Will L. Seisin, of Omaha, and they have one child, Alwin. Sue married E. C. Phillips, of this place, and they have two children, Charles and Fanny.



**L** EMUEL D. JORDAN. No man can justly blame the pioneer for reverting to his early life on the frontier and especially its after results with a feeling of pride and satisfaction. Too much credit cannot be given to those who persevered amid the difficulties which beset them during the first settlement of Nebraska, and none but those experiencing them can fully realize how great were the discouragements which were encountered by the first pilgrims to this region. Many of them came alone with their little family to a wild and uninhabited region while Indians still lingered around, bent upon mischief, and regarding the white invaders with no friendly eye. It seems to us that there can be no more worthy object than that which seeks to perpetuate the record of the lives of those men who, by their courage and perseverance, laid the foundation stone of Nebraska's prosperity.

The subject of this sketch stands as a living witness of the life of the early pioneer of the Far West, having come here as early as 1855. Before proceeding further with his history it may be proper to state that he is a scion of one of the first families seeking American shores, his paternal great-grandfather having crossed the Atlantic on the "May-



flower" in 1620. He located in Maine, where he was represented subsequently by several generations. To his son Ebenezer there was born Lemuel D., Sr., the father of our subject, and to him Lemuel, Jr., the latter born in 1832. Our subject was reared among the hills of his native State. He had been deprived of a father's care when a mere babe and lived with his mother until a youth of nineteen years. Then leaving home he migrated to Lowell, Mass., in the spring of 1851, and for three months thereafter was employed in a cotton factory. We next find him in Buffalo, N. Y., where he made but a brief sojourn, then crossed Lake Erie to Toledo, Ohio, proceeded from there to Sturgis, Mich., and thence by stage to White Pigeon, Mich., where he entered the employ of the Michigan Southern Railroad Company, who were engaged in extending their line to Chicago and Rock Island.

Young Jordan was thus occupied three years, then crossing the Mississippi proceeded to Linn County, Iowa, where he had relatives. He and his cousin, Abner A. Jordan, finally concluded to cross the plains, and accordingly purchased three yoke of oxen, loaded a wagon with provisions and some tools, crossed the Missouri River on a flatboat, and thence proceeded up the Nemaha to his present location in Clay Precinct, arriving here in July, 1855, after a journey of two months. Each took up a "squatter's" claim of 160 acres, adjoining, and after the survey was made they pre-empted their land, put up a log house, and made themselves as comfortable as their circumstances would permit. The cracks in their dwelling were stopped with clay and sticks; the floor, roof and door were made of puncheon, and light was admitted through an 8x10 pane of glass which they placed in the door. The structure was essentially home made, even to the hinges and wooden latch.

In this rude dwelling the cousins kept bachelor's hall a number of years, when Abner A. was married, and our subject lived with the young couple until he, too, found a wife and helpmate. This most important event in his life was celebrated Feb. 25, 1869, the maiden of his choice being Miss Florence Walbridge. Our subject had in the meantime put up for himself a hewed log house, and in this he was married. The nuptials were unaccompanied

by the style and outlay of the present day, but it is possible that the pair were quite as happy and contented as the people of this later generation who often begin life beyond their means, and so continue until misfortune overtakes them and "their last days are worse than the first."

Mr. Jordan had taken up another claim of 160 acres near his first, and lived there about seven years. He then returned to the old farm, where in 1882 he put up a commodious frame dwelling which he now occupies with his family, surrounded by all the comforts of life. He has added to his real estate until he is the owner of 480 broad acres, upon which he has over eight miles of all kinds of fencing. After bringing his land to a good state of cultivation he turned his attention largely to stock-raising, and usually keeps a herd of 100 Short-horn cattle, together with from twenty to twenty-five head of horses of the Black Hawk, Morgan and Norman stock. Both in horses and cattle he exhibits as fine animals as are to be found in this county. He is regarded as a first-class farmer, and has been remarkably fortunate in his investments.

The first tax our subject paid in Pawnee County amounted to \$3.70; his last was \$130.80. This fact is sufficiently indicative of the manner in which his property has increased in value. His accumulations are the result of his own industry and good judgment, and his early life, though seeming hard at the time, was probably one of the best schools in which he could have been drilled, forming within him a character strong and self-reliant and admirably adapted to cope with the circumstances of his after life. The man who has earned his property dollar by dollar usually knows how to take care of it.

Mr. Jordan cast his first Presidential vote for Grant. He is an earnest Republican politically, but has no time to spend as an office-seeker, having all he can possibly do to look after his individual affairs. He is nevertheless public-spirited and liberal, and uniformly gives his encouragement and more substantial support to the various enterprises having for their object the progress and advancement of his county.

The parents of Mrs. Jordan were John and Jane (Malory) Walbridge, natives respectively of Vermont and Connecticut. After marriage they re-

moved to Pennsylvania, settling in Erie County, where Mrs. J. was born May 12, 1844, and where the parents spent their last days. There came to the hearthstone of Mr. and Mrs. Jordan nine children, who were named respectively: Phila M., Mina D., Ruth C., Sadie F., Bessie E., Lemuel D., Clem C., Clayton T. and Ray W. Phila died at the early age of sixteen years. She was a promising child, and in their bereavement the parents had the warm sympathy of all who knew them.

LUTHER L. DAVIS, a well-known farmer and stock-raiser of Pawnee County, is classed among the most wide-awake and successful agriculturists of Table Rock Precinct, and his well-tilled and well-stocked farm on section 36, township 3, range 12, is considered one of the best managed and most profitable estates in this vicinity.

Mr. Davis was born in Harrison County, Va., May 5, 1831. His father, Uriah Davis, was a native of the same State, and there married Vienna Davis, who, though bearing the same family name, was, however, no relation. To them came thirteen children, of whom nine lived to maturity. At some period of their married life, when our subject was quite young, they left their old home in Virginia and took up their abode in Ohio, living first in Union County, moving thence to Clarke County, from there to Jackson Township, Shelby County, and finally moving out of the State altogether. We next hear of them in Peoria County, Ill., they having settled near Farmington, and one year later they went to Chillicothe, in the same county. In 1854 they crossed the Mississippi River, and the father of our subject bought forty acres in Clinton County, Iowa. After improving a good farm there, in 1865 Mr. Davis again took up the march westward, and coming to Nebraska with our subject took up land for himself, and made his home here the rest of his days, dying in 1870. He was a member of the Baptist Church, was a sincere Christian, and left the precious legacy of an honest name to his children. His good wife, who was held in equal esteem with himself, died in Iowa in 1886. James and

Betsy Davis, the paternal grandparents of our subject, were natives of Wales, and coming to America after marriage, settled in Virginia. They subsequently accompanied their children to Ohio, and died in Jackson Township. They reared a large family.

Luther Davis, of this biographical notice, was very young when his parents took him from his early home in the Old Dominion to Ohio, and he was but fourteen years old when he accompanied them to Illinois. He was of age when the family went to Iowa, and he industriously worked out and earned money, which he loaned to his father to build up his home, and afterward generously gave it to him as a permanent gift, and with characteristic energy began anew to accumulate money to provide himself with the means to build up a home of his own. Sept. 28, 1854, he was united in marriage to Miss Purmilla Davis. Nine children have been born to them, of whom five are still living, and following is the record of their births: Lovey, born Jan. 7, 1856; Uriah F., Feb. 18, 1861; Frank, May 24, 1863; Eleazor C., June 12, 1866; Reuben J., Feb. 28, 1870. Lovey married William Higgenbottom; they live in Oregon, and have two children. Frank married Jennie, daughter of Silas Hayes. Uriah married Ella Van Horn; they have one child. The other children are living with their parents.

Mrs. Davis was born in Champaign County, Ohio, Nov. 25, 1835, and lived in Ohio until 1853, when she moved to Iowa with her parents. Mrs. Davis' grandfather, John Davis, was born in Wales, May 1, 1754, and migrating to this country, he settled in Virginia, where he followed his trade of carpenter. He was a Captain in the Revolutionary War, and did gallant service in behalf of his adopted country. He died Jan. 22, 1842, at an advanced age. His son John, Mrs. Davis' father, was born in Virginia, July 24, 1793, and he married in his native State Miss Purmilla Maxon, who was born Jan. 26, 1803; their marriage occurred Oct. 26, 1818. They became the parents of twelve children. The father was a man of versatile genius, being at once a doctor of considerable skill, a practical farmer, an ordained minister in the Baptist Church of much note, and a good



cabinet-maker. He spent many years in Ohio, and thence moved to Clinton County, Iowa, and twenty-one years later to Coffey County, Ky. After that he came here and staid with his daughter for a time, and then went to Atchison County, Kan., and took up some land there and improved it. After the death of his wife in that county, June 16, 1879, at the age of seventy-four years, seven months and twenty-one days, he returned to the home of our subject, where his death occurred April 15, 1880, at the age of eighty-two years, eight months and twenty-two days. His family and that of our subject were in nowise connected although bearing the same surname. Both families have borne honorable reputations and have been well thought of since the earliest record of them.

Mr. Davis may be denominated a pioneer of Nebraska, as he was an early settler of this part of the State. He came here in the spring of 1865, and took up some Government land under the provision of the Homestead Act, in the western part of Richardson County, one mile southeast of his present farm. On that land he turned the first furrow, and set the first trees. He also put out a good orchard, hedged and fenced his land, and made all the usual improvements for increasing the value of a good farm, including, in 1867, a fine frame house, 20x20 feet, and one and one-half stories in height, neat and well painted, and at that time the best house in the county; it is still standing. He at first paid exclusive attention to raising grain, and then went into the stock business, selling in the home market. While living on that place he helped to organize the school district, was its first Moderator, and was one of the very few who stood the expense of putting up a good frame building for a school-house, which is still standing. He hired the first teacher who taught in that district. Our subject helped Mr. Benjamin Clement to build the first bridge over the Big Muddy at Hughes, drawing the timber for it from John Shook's mill, on the Missouri River at Hillsdale, doing his share of the work in putting the bridge together. He also helped to break through the first roads in that part of the district. When he first settled on that farm Indians were in the neighborhood, and were frequent callers on him when he was at work on

his place. While plowing his land antelopes and deer came near him and showed no sign of fear. In 1870 Mr. Davis disposed of his property in Richardson County, and crossing the line into this county, purchased his present farm, which was then school land. He at once erected a good dwelling, which still stands, and a fine barn, 60x30 feet, that was burned in 1885. He set out the first trees here, and planted all but twelve acres of his forest and orchard. He put a fence and hedge clear around, and also cross fenced it. His grounds are well supplied with shrubbery and evergreens, and he has a good bearing orchard. He has thus developed from the wild prairies by his persistent and well-directed labors a fine homestead, replete with all the necessary improvements. Mr. Davis is a man of decided force of character, believes in having the best of everything that money, industry and enterprise can procure, and as a result his farm is under a high state of cultivation, yielding him rich returns. His horses, of good and well-selected breeds, are animals of which the owner is proud; his cattle, high graded Durhams and Short-horns, have the best of care and compare well with other herds in the precinct, and his herd justly noted for its character, being of recorded stock, and one full-blooded, registered Durham, dropped in April, 1886, and in December, 1888, tipped the scales at 1,200 pounds, her mother being one of the finest cows in the country. His fat Poland-China hogs, of the best breed, always command a good market, and he has a fine line of breeders; four of full-blood he has sold to prominent farmers as heads of herds.

Our subject is one of the leading members of the Baptist Church, and is highly spoken of by all as a man of unimpeachable integrity, who is honorable in all of his transactions. He is an ardent advocate of temperance, and for four years has been one of the foremost leaders of the Prohibition party in this county. He has been a delegate to many of the party conventions, among them the first State conventions held at Lincoln, also all following there and at Omaha, besides the county and district conventions, having been Chairman of the first conventions held in Pawnee County. During the late campaign he spent much of his time lecturing in



Pawnee, Richardson, Johnson and Nemaha Counties, often speaking to large audiences, and doing much good for the cause which he has so much at heart. He has, however, avoided nomination although such an active worker. He is Central Committeeman of this precinct. While on his lecturing tour he has borne a part of the expenses himself, thus devoting both time and money to the elevation of his fellowmen. He has taken an interest in educational matters, and helped to organize the school district and to build the school-house. He has been Road Supervisor for four terms, and his fellow-citizens are greatly indebted to his energy and efficiency for the good roads on which they travel, the highways having greatly improved under his care, and all are pleased at the amount of work done and the judicious expenditure of money.

The home of our subject is the center of a true and bounteous hospitality, and both host and hostess delight in entertaining people, giving all who enter their doors a cordial welcome. Mr. Davis, besides being a genial and pleasant conversationalist, has quite a musical talent, as have his family also, and he plays well on the horn, violin and organ, and can discourse sweet music on the most insignificant of instruments.



**THOMAS H. SHANNON.** The representatives and sons of the pioneer families stand next to the original tillers of the soil in point of importance. Among these in Nebraska is the subject of this memoir, who, like his father before him, carried on farming pursuits until 1879, but is now familiarly known to the people of Pawnee City as the proprietor of the Shannon House, one of the most popular and best-regulated hotels in the city. Mr. Shannon is what may be called a self-made man, being among the large number of those who started in this Western country with no capital but their stout muscle and courageous hearts.

Before proceeding further it will perhaps be well to glance at the opening years of our subject, which were spent near the town of North Salem, in Hendricks County, Ind. In that town stood the modest dwelling of his parents, where his birth took place

Oct. 14, 1836. His father, Thomas R. Shannon, was born in West Virginia in 1803, and carried on farming his entire life. He married, in his native county, Miss Sarah, daughter of David Allen, who was a year older than himself, born in 1802. They lived in the Old Dominion for a time after their marriage, then, about the year 1833, migrated to Hendricks County, Ind., and settled on a tract of new land, where the father prosecuted farming until the fall of 1858.

Indiana not effecting for Thomas R. Shannon as much as he expected in point of worldly prosperity, he resolved to cross the Mississippi and seek in a more Western country something which should prove of greater benefit to himself and family. Upon making his advent into this county he located on a tract of land in Pawnee Precinct, two miles west of the present site of Pawnee City, which was then marked only by a few rude structures, called houses, and gave little indication of its future importance. The elder Shannon began with the help of his wife and elder children the improvement of 160 acres of land, and upon this he sojourned until his death, which occurred twelve years later, in the spring of 1870. The wife and mother, who had stood bravely by the side of her husband in his toils and struggles, only survived him about three years. Their family consisted of five sons: Samuel S., William A., Thomas H. (our subject), Milton A. and Greenville D.

Young Shannon received a rather limited education in the district school, and left the parental roof when about twenty-two years old. He worked for a time in the employ of his father, and at an early date thereafter felt that he was equal to the task of taking care of a wife and family. He was accordingly married, Jan. 18, 1865, to Miss Mary S. Griffith, of Pawnee Precinct, and the daughter of John Griffith, Esq., who had removed from Bucks County, Pa., to Nebraska about 1865. Mrs. Shannon was born in November, 1841, in that county, and remained under the home roof until her marriage. Afterward our subject and his wife moved upon a farm in Pawnee Precinct, where Mr. Shannon prosecuted agriculture and stock-raising quite successfully. He first rented a tract of land, and later purchased a farm of 160 acres in Pawnee Precinct,

about one mile northwest of town. He effected many improvements, and remained upon it until 1879, when he abandoned the labors of farm life, and removing to Pawnee City secured a lot and put up a house. The latter was burned in 1881, and having no insurance was a total loss. There were at this time twenty-seven other buildings destroyed by fire.

In the summer of 1885 our subject put up what is now known as the Shannon House, and which occupies an area of 32x60 feet, and is a substantial brick structure two stories in height, situated at a convenient point south of the court-house square. It is one of the best \$1 hotels in the county, and patronized by a large proportion of the traveling public through this region.

Mr. and Mrs. Shannon are the parents of two sons, Henry A. and Joseph R., to whom they are giving the advantages of a first-class education, both being students in the University at Lincoln. They lost an infant daughter at the age of three months. Our subject cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln, and it is hardly necessary to state has since that time been an ardent supporter of Republican principles. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Shannon, was one of the earliest settlers of Hendricks County, Ind., and operated what was familiarly known by the pioneers as the "Shannon House Mill." He spent his last years in Indiana.



**M**RS. MANIE HACHENBERG. There is no more attractive picture on the face of the earth than a well-regulated country homestead presided over by culture and intelligence, the sound sense that adapts itself to the supervision of the mechanical department, and the refined tastes capable of eliminating beauty from the resources always at hand. These ideas have been fully carried out in the homestead occupied by the lady whose name appears in connection with this sketch. It has been under her personal supervision since the decease of her honored husband, and right well has she discharged the trusts committed to her care. A lady of fine intelligence and thorough education, she is admirably adapted

to perpetuate the reputation of one of the most valuable and attractive estates in the county, and by her amiability of character has drawn around her hosts of friends. She followed the profession of a teacher during the years of her early womanhood, and although the sober realities of life have for many years claimed her attention she has never allowed herself to deteriorate or abandon her mental culture.

Adjacent to the pleasant little town of Woodstock, McHenry Co., Ill., was the childhood home of Mrs Hachenberg, and where she first opened her eyes to the light May 15, 1841. She lived there with her parents until eleven years of age, and then they removed from the farm into the town, where she attended the common school. In 1856 the family removed to Allamakee County, Iowa, where she at the age of nineteen years began her career as a teacher.

In 1860, however, our subject desiring to perfect her education more fully, returned to Woodstock, Ill., and pursued her studies in the seminary there for about two years. Afterward she taught two terms in that vicinity, then rejoined her parents in Iowa, and continued as a teacher until failing health obliged her to abandon it. She was very successful and popular among both parents and children, and always maintained a warm interest in the welfare of those committed to her care. After leaving the schoolroom she remained with her parents until her marriage with Mr. George W. Hachenberg, on the 13th of December, 1866.

The parents of Mrs. Hachenberg were William and Cathren (Scott) Gilbert, who were both natives of Lenoxshire, Scotland, the father born Aug. 2, 1815, and the mother on the 2d of February, 1809. The paternal grandfather was John Gilbert, also of Scotch birth and ancestry, who spent his entire life upon his native soil engaged in farming pursuits, and died at the age of sixty-eight years. The maternal grandfather was James Scott, also a farmer, who was born, reared and spent his life in the "land of the thistle."

William Gilbert was educated in the common school, and when approaching manhood served an apprenticeship as a stonemason, and was married later in his native shire. He emigrated with his



family to America in 1839, locating near Woodstock, in McHenry County, Ill., where he purchased 160 acres of land, from which he constructed a good farm. He also worked at his trade in connection with agriculture, and continued on the farm until 1856. In the meantime the wife and mother had been called to her long home, dying in 1848, at the age of forty-two years.

After the death of his first wife Mr. Gilbert was married in 1849 to Miss Sarah L. Allen, who was born in Portage County, Ohio, Nov. 16, 1826, and removed with her parents to Illinois when a young girl of thirteen years. Upon leaving the farm Mr. Gilbert occupied himself at his trade in Woodstock until 1859. Then, with a desire to cross the Mississippi, he disposed of his Illinois property, and wended his way to Allamakee County, Iowa, where he purchased 160 acres of timber land, upon which he made some improvements, then sold out and purchased an improved farm near Frankville, same county. He sold this in 1884 and came to this county, but on account of failing health he returned to Iowa, and died at the home of his son near Frankville, on the 14th of August, that year. He had been a man quite prominent in his community, serving a number of years as Justice of the Peace, and occupying other positions of trust. Politically, he was a staunch Republican, and in religious matters, a devout Presbyterian.

Of the first marriage of William Gilbert there were born six children, three of whom grew to mature years. Of these all are living: Manie, Mrs. Hachenberg, Agnes and John, who are both residents of Iowa. Catherine and two infants unnamed are deceased. Of the second marriage there were three children: Ellen, in Iowa; Louis, in Dakota; and William, a resident of this State.

Mr. George W. Hachenberg was born in Delaware County, Ohio, Sept. 8, 1845. He became a resident of Iowa, where he lived until the outbreak of the Civil War. When but eighteen years old he enlisted in Company E, 9th Iowa Cavalry, being mustered into service at Waukon as a Corporal under Capt. Dean. They were first ordered to Little Rock, Ark., and soon met the enemy in open conflict. Mr. Hachenberg, in one of the first engagements, was wounded in the right hip and

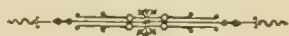
conveyed to the hospital. He refused to have the limb amputated, notwithstanding the matter was urged by the surgeons, and recovered sufficiently to rejoin his regiment, with which he served until the close of the war. He participated in eight pitched battles besides numerous skirmishes, and was proffered promotion repeatedly but invariably declined. He received his honorable discharge at Little Rock on the 3d of July, 1866, was mustered out at the same place, and returning to Iowa resumed farming, and continued a resident of the Hawkeye State until the spring of 1869.

Mr. Hachenberg now resolved to change his residence to Nebraska, and came overland with his family to this county, crossing the Missouri at Brownville. He purchased a tract of uncultivated land lying on Plum Creek, and lived in a dug-out the first summer, in the meantime hauling logs to Blue Springs to have them sawed in proper shape for the construction of a house. This first domicile was 13x17 feet square, and within it the family lived until 1879, when the present residence was erected. Five acres of the land had been broken, but aside from this there had been no attempt whatever at improvement, and there was not a stick of timber upon the whole tract. Mr. Hachenberg labored industriously from that time forward, plowing, sowing and reaping, setting out forest and fruit trees, and bringing about the various improvements naturally suggested to the mind of the practiced and skillful agriculturist. The land proved to be finely located, and well watered by a branch of Plum Creek. Mr. H. rested from his earthly labors on the 19th of March, 1879. Of his union with our subject there had been born two children only, a son and a daughter—Katie L. and William G. Mr. Hachenberg, politically, was a staunch Republican, and officiated as Justice of the Peace a number of years. He also served on the Grand and Petit Juries, was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church, being one of its most cheerful and liberal contributors, and assisting materially in the construction of the church edifice. Socially, he belonged to the Masonic fraternity in Pawnee City.

Mrs. Hachenberg since the death of her husband has proceeded with the improvements which he



projected but did not live to carry out. Under her supervision the whole of the land has been brought to a state of cultivation, and many other improvements effected in its condition. She rents the land and receives therefrom a handsome income. It is largely devoted to stock-raising, the specialty being cattle and swine, and dairying is also carried on in a limited degree.



**J**ACOB T. LAYMAN. This pioneer of 1866 when striking the soil of Nebraska Territory came directly to Sheridan Precinct, of which he has since been a continuous resident. He is now the owner of a good farm, comprising 120 acres on section 19, which he purchased in March, 1881. He first took up a homestead claim on section 22, township 2, range 12, upon which there had been no attempt at improvement, and upon which he turned the first furrow in 1869. After getting in his first crops he busied himself in setting out forest and fruit trees, also shrubbery, and in due time put up a good house and barn and the other structures necessary for the convenience of the modern agriculturist. His neighbors were few and far between, there being only two houses anywhere near him, and three more farther away. The Indians had but recently left this region, although the settlers were still in apprehension of their revisiting it upon mischief intent. They suffered thereafter from grasshoppers, this insect appearing shortly after Mr. Layman had taken up his residence here.

Mr. Layman disposed of his first property in 1880, and upon his taking possession of that which he now occupies repeated the experiment of planting trees and erecting buildings. He now has one of the finest farms in this region, lying about two miles east of Pawnee City, and amply supplied with all the conveniences and comforts of modern life. His career has been distinguished as that of a hard-working and industrious man, upright in his transactions, and one who stands well among his neighbors.

A son of the Old Dominion, our subject was born Sept. 26, 1844, but two years later his parents

removed to the vicinity of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., where they lived about five years. Thence they pushed on further westward to Adams County, Ill., where the father carried on farming, and where Jacob T. received a practical education in the common schools. During the progress of the late war he enlisted as a Union soldier, Aug. 14, 1862, in Company F, 118th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee under command of Gen. Sherman. He met the enemy in battle at Arkansas Post, Haines' Bluff on the Yazoo River, was at Vicksburg two weeks, and subsequently fought at Jackson, Miss., besides engaging in various skirmishes with the rebels. He fortunately escaped wounds and imprisonment, although once struck by a spent ball. He was mustered out July 5, 1865, having been in the meantime transferred to the 5th Indiana Infantry, a veteran reserve which was assigned to duty as a guard of the prisoners at Indianapolis.

After returning from the army Mr. Layman spent one year at school in Adams County, Ill., then set out for the farther West. He was a single man when coming to this county, but finally met his fate in the person of Miss Sarah Freeman, to whom he was married Nov. 19, 1870. This union resulted in the birth of five children, all living: Elmer, the eldest son, was born Feb. 23, 1872; Alva, Jan. 26, 1875; Lulu, Aug. 6, 1879; Gilbert W., May 12, 1882, and William Roy, April 18, 1888. They are all at home with their parents, forming a bright and interesting group, which the latter look upon with pardonable pride.

The wife of our subject was born in Armstrong County, Pa., Feb. 3, 1850, and lived there until a maiden of fifteen years. She then accompanied her parents to Table Rock Precinct, this county, in 1865, where she lived until her marriage. Her father, Henry Freeman, was one of the pioneer settlers of Table Rock, and lived in a dug-out for a good many years. He possessed the qualities of industry and perseverance, however, and came out of the struggle with the elements of a new soil so that he is now the owner of a good property. A sketch of him will be found elsewhere in this work.

Daniel Layman, the father of our subject, was born in Christian County, Pa., and married Miss

Lucinda Cavanaugh. Five of the ten children, the offspring of this union, lived to mature years and are now surviving. The family removed first to Pennsylvania and then to Illinois, sojourning in the latter State until 1876; the mother died there in 1852. Thence the father migrated to Texas, and from there to Table Rock Precinct, this county, where he still lives. He learned the trade of a tailor in his youth, which he followed, however, only a few years, then engaged in the more congenial pursuits of agriculture. His first wife, the mother of our subject, died in 1852, when Jacob T., our subject, was a little lad eight years of age. The father contracted a second marriage, this time with Miss Mary Jane Ford.

Mr. Layman cast his first Presidential vote for Mr. Lincoln, and is a staunch supporter of Republican principles. He has occupied the various local offices, serving as Road Supervisor and Constable, but has no ambition for a public position, preferring to give his attention to his farming interests. Both he and his excellent wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**CAPT. SANFORD V. MOORE.** The career of this prominent and well-to-do citizen of Pawnee Precinct is of that class regarded with unalloyed interest by every intelligent individual, for it presents a forcible illustration of the results of industry, economy and good management. From a modest beginning in life Mr. Moore has attained to a good position socially and financially, chiefly signalizing himself as an agriculturist of more than ordinary success, and making a specialty of the breeding of Short-horn cattle. His operations are carried on at a fine farm of 200 acres, pleasantly located on section 8, and forming one of the most valuable tracts of land in this section of country.

Capt. Moore is of Southern birth, his native place having been in Oconee County, S. C., and his natal day Oct. 10, 1832. His father, James O. Moore, was also born in South Carolina, Feb. 7, 1810, in what was then known as the Pendleton District. He learned the blacksmith trade when approaching

manhood, and followed it for many years. He spent the closing years of his life in this county. The mother was the daughter of James Sanders, also of South Carolina, and of Scotch-Irish descent. She was born in August, 1809, and the parental family included six children, two sons and four daughters, of whom our subject was the third in order of birth, and three of whom are still living.

The Moore family, about 1842, removed first to Georgia, and then to Tennessee. Sanford V. acquired a limited education in the imperfect schools of that day, attending probably not to exceed a period of three months in his whole life. He attained to manhood under the parental roof, assisting his father in the blacksmith-shop, and at the same time occupying himself considerably at farming. He worked at the forge more or less until twenty-nine years old. At the age of nineteen he was married to Miss Sarah Gibson, daughter of Robert Gibson, of Tennessee, and in 1858 removed with his family to Webster County, Mo.

Mr. Moore now opened up a blacksmith-shop at High Prairie, and worked at his trade until after the outbreak of the Civil War. In the meantime he served in the Home Guards, and in 1862 enlisted in Company B, 8th Missouri Cavalry, under command of W. F. Geiger. They sojourned in Missouri until July, 1863, and were then sent South on the Little Rock campaign, taking part in many of the important battles which followed. Mr. Moore distinguished himself as a brave and efficient soldier, and was four times promoted, finally reaching the rank of First Lieutenant. He was soon transferred to Company F, of which he took command, and was afterward given a Captain's commission. He served thus until resigning, in February, 1865.

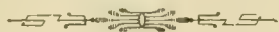
Upon leaving the army Capt. Moore returned to Missouri, settling in Marshfield, and in June, 1865, came to this county and took up a homestead claim of 160 acres. He lived upon this, improving it until he secured a warrantee deed, and added gradually to his landed estate until he is now the owner of 360 broad acres. The farm residence and other buildings are substantially constructed and in good order, and in his live-stock operations Mr. Moore has shipped some of the best swine ever sent from Pawnee County. One carload comprised animals



eleven months old, with an average weight of 309 pounds, for which he received Philadelphia prices. The grasshopper plague, which proved such a detriment to this region, was a harvest for pigs, as they ate them ravenously and fattened upon them.

Mrs. Sarah (Gibson) Moore, the first wife of our subject, became the mother of five children—Robert, John, Jennie, Clara and Mary. His second wife was Miss Maggie, daughter of Williams Robinson, of Georgia, and of this union there were also born five children—Roy, Clay, Dee, Edna and Lamay. The mother of these died in 1882. Mr. Moore contracted a third marriage, with Mrs. Merica Nichols, in June, 1883. This lady was born in Georgia, in 1860, and is the daughter of F. C. and Malinda (Osborn) Foster. The father is living in Georgia, and the mother is deceased.

Our subject during the Centennial at Philadelphia, in 1876, was solicited to visit the exposition as a representative from this county, but declined. In political matters he votes the Republican ticket, and socially, is a member of the G. A. R. He began at the foot of the ladder in life, without means or other resources than his strong muscles and willing hands, and has made for himself an admirable record.



**R**OBERT T. SCOTT. Next to a man's own individuality that of his ancestry is important. He who can trace his lineage to Scotland is always pardoned for a feeling of pride as having been an offshoot from the "land of the thistle," whose sons are everywhere recognized as embodying all the principles of truth and honesty. The sturdy Scotch element has penetrated to almost every quarter of the globe, and there perhaps have been fewer worthless and shiftless characters among the representatives of this nationality than any other on the face of the earth.

The subject of this sketch, a well-to-do and highly respected farmer of Clay Precinct, like his forefathers, was born on Scottish soil, Jan. 17, 1840, in Roxburghshire, and emigrated to the United States with an uncle when a lad of thirteen years. He thereafter made his home with his uncle, Henry Scott, in Stark County, Ill., until the outbreak of

the Rebellion, when he enlisted in Company B, 19th Illinois Infantry, and marching to the front was present at the battles of Stone River, Chickasaw, Mission Ridge, and various minor engagements. He never missed a roll call, and was fortunately enabled to be at his post of duty without intermission until the expiration of his term of enlistment, in July, 1864. He then received his honorable discharge, and returning to Illinois sojourned there one year, and then crossed the Mississippi in search of a location in the farther West.

Coming directly to this county Mr. Scott purchased a tract of land on section 26 in Clay Precinct, from the heirs of Rev. P. M. Rogers, to whose daughter, Anna P., he was married March 14, 1867. Mrs. Scott was born June 13, 1848, in Claiborne County, Tenn., which was also the birthplace of her parents, her mother having been Miss Sarah Beeler. They left the South in the fall of 1854, journeying overland to Iowa before the days of railroads along that route. Two years later they crossed the river, and locating on its banks found not long after that they were on land belonging to the Indians, and hence made another removal to the place which our subject now occupies. There Mr. and Mrs. Rogers spent their last days, the father dying Aug. 20, 1874, and the mother Jan. 1, 1887.

To the parents of Mrs. Scott there were born seven children, namely: Harvey, LaFayette, Marshall L., Jane, Polly, David and Ann. Mr. Rogers was a man of more than ordinary ability, and a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church many years. He was at an early date chosen to represent Pawnee County in the Legislature, serving two terms.

Mr. and Mrs. Scott after their marriage began housekeeping at the place which our subject had purchased in Clay Precinct, and where they continued to live until after the death of Mr. Rogers, when Mr. Scott purchased the home farm, where they now live. Our subject became identified with local affairs soon after taking up his residence here, and in the fall of 1878 was elected a County Commissioner, serving a period of nine years. He is the owner of 740 acres of land, which is devoted to stock-raising, including Short-horn cattle, Ham-



bletonian horses and Merino sheep. The place is embellished with a neat and substantial set of frame buildings, and there are all the conveniences for the successful prosecution of his calling. The premises present to the eye of the passerby a picture of plenty and content which is delightful to look upon. Mr. Scott, politically, is a straight Republican. In religious matters the family are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church.

Matthew Scott, the father of our subject, was the son of Andrew Scott, a native of Roxburghshire, Scotland, and was reared and educated in his native place. He married Miss Catherine Temple, daughter of Dr. Robert and Elizabeth (Elliott) Temple, who were also of Scottish birth and ancestry. They were the parents of two children only: Robert, our subject, and his sister Ellen. The father was cut down in his prime, dying when Robert was a mere lad, and the mother passed away a few years later. He was thus thrown upon his own resources early in life, and may be most properly called a self-made man. He has obtained his possessions by honest industry, and he is not only numbered among the moneyed men of Pawnee County, but in social and business circles occupies a place in the front ranks.

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**C**HARLES V. DIMON, who was a prominent pioneer of Northern Pawnee County in the early days of its settlement, and took an active part in the development of its agriculture, in the advancement of its educational and religious interests, and the promotion of the various schemes for internal improvements, is now living in one of the coziest homes in the city of Table Rock, devoting his time to looking after his property. Mr. Dimon is a native of New Jersey, born in the county of Sussex, Oct. 1, 1826. His father, Steven Dimon, was also a native of that State, and for a number of years was engaged at his trades as a miller and millwright, but subsequently bought land in Pike County, Pa., and carried on farming there until his death. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Fuller, died some years earlier. They had seven children, who lived to maturity. Their son, of

whom we write, received a good common-school education, and for several years devoted himself to teaching. He afterward turned his attention to farming in Pennsylvania, the State in which he was reared, and was quite successful in his venture. He took an important step toward the building up of a home in his marriage, April 28, 1852, to Miss Caroline M. Woodward. To them came one child, who died in infancy. Mrs. Dimon, who has been such an important factor in making her husband's life a success, was born Jan. 9, 1828, in Wayne County, Pa., near the town of Honesdale, and there lived until her marriage. Her father, Asher Woodward, was likewise a native of Wayne County, his birth taking place April 18, 1801. He married Miss Matilda Kennedy, and they had ten children, of whom Mrs. Dimon was the eldest. Mr. Woodward moved, in 1859, to Sandwich, DeKalb Co., Ill., and was engaged in his calling as a farmer until his death, May 3, 1874. Mr. Woodward was a cousin of the celebrated Judge Woodward, of Pennsylvania, a well-known jurist of that State, and for many years Judge of the Supreme Court.

In the spring of 1857 our subject, who had heard much of the cheap lands of the Territory of Nebraska, its fine climate, and other advantages, determined to locate here. He and his wife accordingly left their old home in Pennsylvania, he having disposed of his small property in that State, and started on the long journey to this part of the country. At Weston, Mo., they were obliged to disembark from the boat, as the river was full of ice, and was not navigable beyond that point. Mr. Dimon bought a yoke of cattle, and from that city they traveled in a wagon up through Kansas, and arrived in Table Rock April 4, 1857. Our subject soon took up a pre-emption claim on section 2, township 2, range 12, now Sheridan Precinct, and thus became the possessor of 160 acres of bare prairie, except for a few acres of brush on the Nemaha, where his land commenced. When our subject came here the country was sparsely settled, there being but few settlers here and there along the Nemaha. The Indians, however, were quite plentiful through the country, and one time while Mr. Dimon was away a band of Indians visited his house, and seating themselves around the fire made

themselves quite at home, much to Mrs. Dimon's alarm. When the fire needed replenishing she did not dare to go for firewood, fearing that her unwelcome guests would steal something while she was away. But when the temperature of the room became too cold for Messrs. Lo they found their way to the woodpile, and returned to the house laden with fuel, and rebuilt the fire themselves, and prolonged their visit for some time.

Mr. Dimon's first work was to build a log house, fourteen feet square, in which he and his wife lived very comfortably for the next ten years. In 1867 he replaced that modest dwelling by a more commodious one, of stone which was quarried on his farm by himself, that being one of the first houses in this part of the county to be built of that material. The work on the house was done by Peter Foale, and Mr. Dimon drew the lumber from Brownville, and made the oak shingles himself. The house is still standing, a story and a half dwelling, of good size, and conveniently arranged. Mr. Dimon began breaking his land as soon as possible, and in the years that followed brought it to a fine state of culture. When he left the farm, there were fine groves of maples, evergreens, shrubbery, etc., around the house, and a good orchard, all of which he had set out, besides putting a hedge around the farm. The first years of his settlement in Pawnee County our subject saw some hard times, in common with the other pioneers. He used to take all of his produce to Brownville or Rulo and exchange for just the necessary groceries, and managed that way until the time of freighting, when money became more plentiful, and would go much further in buying than produce. Mr. Dimon says he has seen the time even when it was hard to get postage stamps. He had not very much means when he came here, but being a man of ability and intelligence, he has accumulated a very comfortable competency, and is the owner of several residences here, from the rental of which he derives a good income. While he was engaged in agricultural pursuits he was much interested in raising cattle, devoting his attention to Short-horns, he buying of Thomas McClure the first full-blooded bull of that breed that was brought into this part of the county, and in that way he was one of the first to

have a good herd. He also raised horses and hogs of good grades. He sold his farm in 1883, and purchasing a neat and tasty brick cottage in the city, moved into it, and has ever since resided there.

Mr. Dimon was the first Assessor of this precinct, when there but few houses here. He was elected Justice of the Peace, but subsequently resigned. In politics he has always voted with the Republican party. Mr. Dimon helped to build all of the first bridges in this part of the country, and among them was the first bridge across the Nemaha, on the line between Table Rock and Sheridan precincts. He was at the meeting at which the first school district in the northern part of the county was organized, was chosen the first Director, and held that office, or some other position on the School Board the most of the time while he remained a resident of the district. By virtue of his office he was a member of the building committee, and helped to build the first school-house.

Mr. and Mrs. Dimon are very prominent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Table Rock. Mr. Dimon was converted while still a young man in Pennsylvania, and made his connection with the Methodist Church when he was twenty years old, and has since been a consistent member and an active worker within the fold. While at Waymart, Pa., he was Class-Leader in the church, and he holds that office here, besides being Trustee of the church. He was one of the original members of the Table Rock church, one of the first religious organizations in the county, he at first being Trustee, and has since been Class-Leader, Steward and Trustee most of the time. If it had not been for his earnest efforts in soliciting subscriptions for the church and parsonage, Table Rock would probably have been without a house of worship for several years longer. He and the Rev. Burch went to the woods and shayed shingles for the building. Mr. Dimon also helped substantially in building the first church and parsonage in Humboldt and Pawnee City, and also a second church in Table Rock. He is a zealous worker in the Sunday-school, and shortly after he came here organized one in his own neighborhood, which was one of the earliest, if not the first in the county, and was for many years its Superintendent, until he removed to

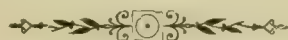






Harvey S Dickinson

the city. He is now chorister, treasurer and teacher in the school connected with the church in which he worships. Mr. Dimon is highly spoken of by all for the probity of his character, and his life has been an exemplary one, well worthy of being the model for any young man.



**H**S. DICKINSON. The subject of this memoir found his way to Nebraska in 1884, and settled upon the farm which he now occupies, and which comprises 240 acres of good land on sections 16 and 21, Clay Precinct. He has a family history which is of more than usual interest, and which we will append after dealing with the more immediate events of his life.

Mr. Dickinson was born in Randolph, Portage Co., Ohio, Aug. 5, 1820, and removed to Henry County, Ill., in 1855. He had up to this time remained a bachelor, but he now met his fate in the person of Jane A. Baker, to whom he was married Sept. 14, 1857. Mrs. Dickinson was a native of the same State as her husband, born in Washington County, Sept. 25, 1831. They spent the first years of their married life in the Prairie State, and became the parents of four children. Their eldest, Ida E., was born Sept. 19, 1859, and married John McCall; John M. was born Jan. 3, 1861; Charles T., Oct. 28, 1862, and Julia A., Dec. 23, 1866.

Mr. Dickinson while in Illinois was connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiated as Steward a number of years. He was in early manhood a member of the Republican party, but his warm interest in the temperance cause has led him to array himself with the Prohibitionists. He is now, with his family, a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1851 he sought the Pacific Slope and engaged in mining in California for four years. Then returning to Illinois, he sojourned there until his removal to this county. He is regarded as a thorough and skillful farmer, and each year sees something added to the value of his property. He has a good set of buildings and farm machinery, and has planted an orchard of apple trees, besides gathering about the dwelling various other com-

forts and conveniences. He is a man who attends strictly to his own concerns, makes very little stir in the world, but entertains decided views and opinions, and keeps himself posted upon matters of general interest to the intelligent citizen.

Our subject is the son of Jesse and Roxie (Chapman) Dickinson, the latter of whom died when a young woman of about twenty-nine years, in February, 1821, less than a year after the birth of her son H. S. Jesse Dickinson departed this life Feb. 19, 1878, at his home in Illinois. The paternal grandfather was Oliver Dickinson, who spent his last years in Ohio.

From an article written some time since in the Cleveland *Herald*, we gather the following facts in relation to this family, which traces its lineage back almost to the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth Rock: The earliest authentic record is of Nathaniel Dickinson, who lived in Wethersfield, Conn., in 1634. From him descended successively Thomas, David, Richard and Oliver, the latter being the grandfather of our subject. He (Oliver) migrated to East Granville, Mass., where he followed the trade of blacksmith. He secured four or five acres of land, and made for himself and family a comfortable living, and to him were born Oliver, Walter; Jesse, the father of our subject, and Alpheus.

Grandfather Dickinson finally had an opportunity to trade his little home for wild land in what was then called New Connecticut, but is now the Western Reserve of Ohio. This land was located in Randolph Township, and was owned by Lemuel Storrs, who had been sole proprietor of the whole township. Oliver Dickinson started West to view his contemplated purchase, and had a large tract from which to make his selection of 660 acres. His first choice was lot 66, and upon a portion of this now stands Randolph Center. A few people had come into this region to make settlement. Mr. D. returned to Massachusetts and the following year started with his family and all his earthly possessions, stowed away in a large two-horse wagon, to which were attached three yoke of oxen and one horse as a leader of the band. For forty-eight long and weary days they journeyed toward the setting sun, through Pennsylvania, over the Alleghany Mountains, little occurring to break the



monotony until they reached their journey's end, and found themselves the eighth family to settle in Randolph Township.

The history of the early settlement of Ohio abounds with thrilling incidents, and Mr. Dickinson had his full share of privation, difficulty and danger. They had to journey a long distance to mill, following bridle-paths, and frequently being disappointed in getting their grist. When the miller was away and could not be reached, the mother put the corn in a mortar or hulled it, and the family waited patiently, although sometimes very hungry, until it was baked on a board or in the old iron kettle. Oliver Dickinson lived on lot 66 until his death, which occurred in 1842. He left a competency for his children. During the War of 1812 a draft was ordered in Randolph Township, and of the six or seven men thus selected for military duty four were the sons of Oliver Dickinson. Oliver C. and Alpheus were sent to Lower Sandusky, now Fremont; Walter was already serving as teamster in the army, and was excused; Jesse, the father of our subject, went to Ravenna to be mustered into the service, but was sent home and told to hold himself in readiness at a moment's call. He was, however, never called upon. At the end of seventy days the father hired a substitute for his youngest son, then nineteen years old, and he came home.

Lovejoy, the wife of Oliver Dickinson, died many years before her husband, in 1818. Oliver C., his son, died in 1854; Walter in 1855, and Comfort, the remaining daughter, who came with the family from Massachusetts, in 1877, in Kansas, when very old; Jesse, the father of our subject, removed to Illinois about 1856, and is now deceased. In 1821 he united with the Congregational Church, remaining from that time on a regular communicant, and finally becoming its oldest living member in Wellsfield, Ill.

In the Congregational burying-ground at Randolph Centre, Ohio, are lying side by side the six deceased wives of Alpheus Dickinson, an uncle of our subject, and in connection with these is a most remarkable tale. The first wife on her deathbed recommended to her husband Mary Percy Roberts, who, like herself, was a native of Middletown, Conn. After a proper time had elapsed Mr. Dickinson

started for New England, making the long journey on horseback, and bringing back with him his second wife. This lady soon died, and before dying she recommended her husband to marry Mary Johnson, who, like the two preceding, was a resident of Middletown. Once more does Mr. Dickinson repeat the long and tedious journey to Connecticut on horseback, and returns bringing his third wife. He is for the third time left a widower, in 1832. He subsequently married Maria Curtis, of Charlestown, Ohio, who died in 1864. His fifth wife was Martha Sears, of the same town, who lived less than two years after her marriage. The name of his sixth wife is not given in the narrative, beyond the fact that she existed. The five wives were all comparatively young at the time of their death. The second was a cousin to the first, and the third a cousin to the second; the fifth was a niece of the first. Alpheus Dickinson, notwithstanding the great afflictions he had been called upon to endure, used frequently to remark: "I have never yet been placed in circumstances so distressing and hopeless but that I could think of someone whose situation was worse than mine." He was of a cheerful disposition, and of a remarkably social turn, with strong religious tendencies, living to a good old age, and spending his last years in Randolph Township.

On an adjoining page will be found a fine portrait of Mr. H. S. Dickinson, the representative in Nebraska of this ancient family.



**J**AMES MILTON, a practical and progressive agriculturist of West Branch Precinct, is the owner of a fertile and well-conducted farm of 160 acres, lying on sections 13 and 24. He is a native of Ohio, born in Otsego, Muskingum County, April 21, 1835. He is of Dutch ancestry, his paternal grandfather having been the first of his paternal ancestors born in the United States. He took an active part in the Revolutionary War, and afterward settled in New York State. Daniel Milton, father of our subject, was born in Albany, N. Y., and in early life learned the trade of blacksmith. He enlisted in the War of 1812, and was detailed to work in the shops. At the close of the war he



went to New York City, and for some time after was employed by the Government in the navy yard. He afterward moved to Ohio and opened a smithy in Muskingum County, subsequently buying a farm and establishing a forge at Otsego, the same county.

Thinking to make money more easily and rapidly than at his trade, Mr. Milton engaged in the salt business, but was unfortunate, losing his entire capital, and had to resume his former occupation. In 1855 he pushed still farther West, coming by boat to Iowa, where he located on a farm in Louisa County, near Morning Sun, and there engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death, in 1860, at the advanced age of seventy-three years. He was a man of sterling worth, and a member of the Baptist Church. The maiden name of his wife was Susan Dillon, who was a native of Muskingum County, Ohio. To her and her husband were born eleven children, as follows: Henry died in infancy; George, deceased; Mary lives in Iowa; Julia, deceased; Elizabeth lives in Ohio; Margaret, with our subject; James; Francis, deceased; Daniel, deceased, was in the late Civil War; Emily, deceased; John, with our subject.

James Milton, of our sketch, received his education in Ohio, attending a subscription school. He early learned the trade of a blacksmith from his father, and at the age of fourteen years began earning his living away from home, usually doing light farm work. When twenty years of age he removed to Louisa County, Iowa, with his parents, and there, near Morning Sun, rented land in partnership with his father and engaged in farming. He continued thus employed until 1862, when, inspired by patriotic impulses, he enlisted in Company G, 19th Iowa Infantry, and was mustered into service at Keokuk. His regiment was assigned to the 2d Division of the 13th Army Corps, under Gen. Scofield, and ordered to the frontier in Missouri.

Mr. Milton and his comrades were at first engaged principally in scouting, having an occasional skirmish with the enemy, until the battle of Prairie Grove, in which they took an active part. They were again engaged in skirmishing and bushwhacking until the spring of 1863, when their division was ordered to Vicksburg, and assigned a position

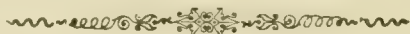
on the extreme left, and during the siege did efficient service. Our subject was subsequently sent on a scouting expedition up the Mississippi River, and his company had a severe engagement at Morganza. Returning to Jackson, Miss., the men met the enemy at Black River, where they had a skirmish, going thence to Port Hudson; then again they proceeded southward to New Orleans. With other members of his regiment Mr. Milton was sent from there to the mouth of the Red River on a scouting expedition, thence to Morgan's Bend to hold the rebels in check. They had a hotly contested battle Sept. 29, 1863, and our subject being taken prisoner, was sent to Tyler, Tex., where he was put into the stockade, and until the next July suffered the horrors of a rebel prison. On the 9th of that month he was exchanged, and returning to New Orleans, joined his old regiment, which was soon after ordered to Pensacola, Fla., where he was put on picket duty to watch for blockade runners.

In the winter of 1864 Mr. Milton was sent with his comrades to the defense of Mobile, and took part in the battle of Spanish Fort. Going from there to Ft. Blakely they had another engagement. Subsequently our subject was mustered out of service at Mobile, and received his honorable discharge at Davenport, Iowa. During his term of service in defense of his country Mr. Milton was not wounded, although at Vicksburg he received a severe strain while carrying logs.

After leaving the army our subject returned to Louisa County and resumed his agricultural labors, staying there until 1867, when, accompanied by his brother John and sister Margaret, he came to Nebraska with a team, crossing the river at Brownville, and came to this county. He took up a homestead claim of eighty acres of wild land, and became one of the first settlers of West Branch Precinct. He at once began the improvement of his farm, setting out fine groves of forest trees, an orchard, built a comfortable and convenient house, a good barn and out-buildings, hauling the lumber for them from St. Joseph. Mr. Milton was very prosperous in his undertaking, and to his original claim has added an adjacent tract of eighty acres, making him now the owner of 160 acres of arable land, which is entirely improved and under excellent cul-

tivation. John Milton, the brother of our subject, as soon as twenty-one years of age homesteaded eighty acres of land, but afterward sold that and bought eighty acres adjoining that of our subject, and they now carry on in partnership the 240 acres of land, doing an extensive business in farming and stock-raising, having a large number of hogs, horses and cattle.

Our subject is an intelligent, well-informed man, of high moral principles, prominent in assisting all schemes for public benefit, and his many virtues and pleasant ways have gained him a host of friends. Socially, he is a member of the G. A. R., and in politics he earnestly supports the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM C. HANKINS. In the career here presented of the subject of this sketch we have that of one of the early representatives of the mercantile interests of Pawnee City. He has been a good business man in his day, having been fortunate in acquiring a competence, and is now enjoying the fruits of his labors in the peace and comfort of his home, surrounded by hosts of friends and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Hankins began life near the Atlantic Coast, in Monmouth County, N. J., Sept. 3, 1836. His parents, Samuel S. and Ann P. (Gulick) Hankins, were natives of the same State as their son, and the father was there quite extensively engaged as a contractor and builder. In 1839 his attention was attracted to the young and rapidly growing State of Ohio, and he decided to emigrate thither. He took with him his little family, and located in the town of Charloe, Paulding County, where he prosecuted his vocation, superintending the erection of the county court-house and other prominent buildings, many of which still stand as monuments of his thoroughness and skill. There his death took place in 1852, when he was in his prime, having been born in 1806.

The mother of our subject survived her husband a period of thirty-two years, remaining a widow. She spent her last days in Ohio, dying at the home of her daughter, in 1884. Four sons and five daughters came to bless this union, of whom Will-

iam C., our subject, was the fourth in order of birth. He was three years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, and consequently remembers little of the journey, although it was performed in the most primitive style, overland with teams, before the days of railroads or hotels. He spent his boyhood and youth in Paulding County, obtaining a common-school education, and being trained to habits of industry. At the age of sixteen years he commenced learning the trade of saddler and harness-maker, at which he served the regular apprenticeship of three years.

In the year 1856, being then a young man of twenty years, Mr. Hankins started on a trip to the Pacific Slope, and spent five years in the mining regions of California. He was not successful in this enterprise, and returned to Ohio in time to enlist in the defense of the Union, becoming a member of Company H, 14th Ohio Infantry, in the spring of 1861. His regiment was under the command of Col. Steadman, and they proceeded to West Virginia in time to participate in the battles of Philippi, Carrick Ford, Cheat River—this campaign being under the first call for 75,000 troops, who enlisted for three months. At the expiration of that time our subject received his honorable discharge and returned home.

The war, however, was by no means ended, and Mr. Hankins was not one to stand idly by and watch the conflict, so he enlisted in Company H, 191st Ohio Infantry, which was assigned to the command of Gen. Sheridan, stationed then at Winchester. They operated in that region until the close of the war, were mustered out at Winchester and disbanded at Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio. Mr. Hankins then returned home a second time, and on Feb. 11, 1865, was married to Miss Elizabeth McCoy, of Paulding County. This lady was born in that county, and is the daughter of Jonathan S. McCoy, who was a native of Ohio, and spent his last days in that State.

Mr. Hankins, in the spring of 1867, decided to seek his fortunes in the farther West, and accordingly made his way to the newly admitted State of Nebraska. Locating in Pawnee City, he was for five years thereafter engaged in the harness business, being the pioneer harness-maker of the city.



He then sold out and established himself as a general merchant, which business occupied his time and attention until 1885, when he retired, trading stock for farms in Pawnee and Lancaster Counties, which he still owns. His family consists of his wife and six children, one son and five daughters. Katie, the eldest, became the wife of W. T. Jones, who is now deceased. The others are: Sadie, George, Dell, Bessie and Maude. Socially, Mr. Hankins is a member of the G. A. R. He has been a reliable business man, and is one of the stockholders of the Farmers' State Bank, which was organized at Du-Bois, in 1886.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Thomas Hankins, one of the earliest settlers of New Jersey and of English ancestry. Grandfather Gulick served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and traced his ancestry to Scotland.



**B**EN F. HILDEBRAND, editor and proprietor of the *Pawnee Press*, is conducting with success the only Democratic paper in this county. He first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska Nov. 6, 1878, coming directly hither. Upon finishing his education at the High School in Pawnee City, he entered the *Republican* office, where he worked three years, learning the business, and later was associated with his brother, J. G. P. Hildebrand, the result of their united labors being the *Press*, at a time when there were but very few adherents of the Democracy in this region. From a small beginning this journal has grown to be one of the important institutions of the county, having the largest circulation of any paper printed within its limits. It is a bright and newsy sheet, a favorite with all, regardless of politics. Mr. Hildebrand, although young in years, is a thorough and capable business man, systematic and conscientious, and in connection with his job office receives the patronage of the best citizens of the county.

Our subject is essentially a Western man, having been born in Keokuk County, Iowa, Feb. 14, 1864. He lived there until a lad of fourteen years, then, in 1878, came with his parents to this county, they settling on a farm seven miles south of town, where

he lived until removing to Pawnee City to learn the printing trade. Ben F. attended the common school and assisted his father in opening up the new farm, in the meantime keeping his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world, and by reading and study securing a good fund of general information. When but a youth he became interested in politics, and has been quite active in local affairs, frequently serving as a delegate to the different County and State Conventions, and through his paper giving his best efforts to bring about the success of his party. The *Press* was the first journal to introduce the name of Mr. McShann, the first Democrat elected to Congress from this State. Mr. Hildebrand has held several of the local offices, but has very little ambition in this direction, preferring to give his exclusive attention to his paper and his business interests.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Minnie E. Moore, of Pawnee City, was celebrated at the home of the bride, June 14, 1888. Mrs. Hildebrand was born Oct. 4, 1865, at Darien, Wis., and is the daughter of John and Lorena Moore, who came to this county in the month of December, 1885. Mr. Moore, a native of New Jersey, was born in 1819, and moved to Wisconsin. He was married to a Miss Hart, in New Jersey, previous to removing to Wisconsin. They became the parents of nine children, two of whom died when young. Mr. Moore was a farmer by occupation, and carried on agriculture a year or more after coming to this county. He is now retired from active labor, and with his excellent wife, makes his home in Pawnee City. Unlike his son-in-law he is a staunch Republican. The latter, in religious matters, is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Henry Hildebrand, the father of our subject, was born in the Shenandoah Valley, Va., April 23, 1816, and lived there probably until 1854, carrying on farming and milling. He married Miss Elizabeth Whitzel, and to them there were born eleven children, eight of whom lived to mature years. Upon their removal to Iowa they settled remote from any neighbors, and the father constructed a comfortable homestead from a tract of wild land. He occupied this until 1878, then selling out, came to this State, and purchased a farm in South Fork Pre-



cinct, where he lived until the decease of the mother, which took place Aug. 10, 1882. Mr. Hildebrand then took up his residence in town. He has owned several different farms since disposing of his first purchase. The mother of Mrs. Hildebrand was born near Liola, Va., in 1820, and lived there with her parents until her marriage.

**JEROME SHELLHORN.** There are few citizens of Pawnee County residing here any length of time who are not familiar with the name of this honored pioneer. He first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in the spring of 1855, taking up his abode on a tract of land in Richardson County, where he sojourned a period of nine years. Thence he removed to Nemaha County, living there also nine years, and in the fall of 1873 took up his abode in Pawnee City, of which he has since been a resident. He has had a ripe experience in mercantile business and farming. In 1882 he purchased ground within the corporate limits of the city, underneath which there lay a strata of sand to the depth of fifteen feet. From this he supplies all the sand for building purposes that is used for miles around. Later he dug a large well which is kept supplied to the depth of twelve feet with living water, and from which, during the dry season, he supplies the citizen by the barrel, it thus proving an inestimable boon to them and the source of a handsome income to the proprietor. Plasterers, builders, fair associations, etc., are supplied from this source.

The reliable old Keystone State gave to our subject his first impressions of life, he having been born in the village of Berlin, Somerset County, Oct. 28, 1826. His father, Henry Shellhorn, in 1854 removed to Nebraska and settled on South Fork, two miles east of DuBois, where he lived until May 4 of the following year, when he died. He was a native of Maryland, and married Miss Anna M. Lour, who was born in Somerset County, Pa., and was the daughter of Henry Lour, who spent his last years in Ohio.

To the parents of our subject there were born twelve children, six sons and six daughters, who,

with one exception, all lived to mature years. Of these Jerome, our subject, was the sixth in order of birth. When a mere lad his parents removed to Knox County, Ohio, where he spent his boyhood and youth, acquiring a common-school education, and served an apprenticeship of two years at the weaver's trade. His principal business in connection with this was to make coverlets. At the age of twenty-four years he was wedded to Miss Rachel A. Moore, the daughter of Thomas Moore, Esq., of Knox County, Ohio. In the fall of 1852 the young people decided to seek the farther West, and moved across the Mississippi into Andrew County, Mo. Two years later they came to Nebraska, as we have already indicated. There have come to their fireside eight children, of whom the record is as follows: Thomas H. is at home; Alice I. is the wife of John H. Cummins, and they live in Pawnee City; Elizabeth Eldora married John W. Fisher, of Pawnee City; the others, who were named respectively: Theodore Sigel, Amanda Belle (1st), Amanda Belle (2d), Theodore Sigel and Lily May, are deceased.

Mr. Shellhorn, while a resident of Richardson County, was somewhat prominent in local affairs, and represented his precinct in the County Board of Supervisors one year. He uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His paternal grandfather, John Shellhorn, was a native of Maryland, following the occupation of a teamster, and lost his life by drowning while attempting to ford the Potomac River during the breaking up of the heavy ice.

**WILLIAM A. SHANNON** is prominently identified with the pioneer history of Pawnee County, as having been one of its earliest settlers. He pushed his way into Nebraska Territory as one of the advance guard, and has maintained his residence here in spite of the difficulties and hardships which were endured in common by those adventurous spirits who sought their home on the frontier before the era of either stage or railroad. He was born in Hendricks County,

Ind., Jan. 4, 1834, and is the son of Thomas R. Shannon, a native of Giles County, Va. The latter married Miss Sally M. Allen, also a native of Giles County, and they became the parents of five children, all sons, of whom William A. was third in order of birth.

The father of our subject carried on farming on the soil of the Old Dominion until about 1858, and the fall of that year found the whole family journeying westward to Nebraska Territory. The father took up a homestead claim of 160 acres, upon which he labored a period of ten years, building up a good farm and resting from his toils in the October of 1868. The mother survived her husband a period of eight years, passing away in 1875. William A., our subject, was married in May, 1871, to Miss Mary E. Scott, who was born in Hendricks County, Ind., in 1836. Her father, Shannon Scott, was a native of Virginia, and removed first to Indiana and thence to Iowa, spending his last days upon the soil of the Hawkeye State.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shannon settled on a tract of land in Nebraska, where our subject operated first as a renter, and then purchased 160 acres which is included in his present farm. From this he has constructed a good homestead, and is now giving his attention largely to stock-raising. His family consists of one child only, a daughter, Minnie May, who was born March 18, 1876. Two of their children died in infancy. Mr. Shannon, in political matters, affiliates with the Republican party, and religiously, is a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, attending regular services in Pawnee City.



**D**AVIS GALLAGHER, a veteran of seventy-five years, and one of the earliest pioneers of this county, established himself on the west side of the Missouri thirty-four years ago, in the spring of 1855. His experience has been one replete with scenes of great interest connected with life on the frontier at a time when few white settlers had ventured to this region. The Indian trail was yet visible and the savages looked

upon the white invaders with no friendly eye. There was no indication of railroads or bridges, scarcely even a wagon track to mark the path of the emigrant. No man of an effeminate disposition would venture to this section at that time, for it required more than ordinary courage to risk life and property in the Western wilds.

Mr. Gallagher, however, was a man more than ordinarily brave and resolute, and he came to stay. The first years of his residence, which were spent in Richardson County, were employed in bringing a portion of the new soil into cultivation, and upon the land which he then secured he spent a period of two years. Upon selling out, in the spring of 1857, he came to this county and purchased 160 acres, one mile west of the present site of Pawnee City, there being then no indications of the present flourishing town. Here he has carried on the cultivation of his farm, planting fruit and shade trees, erecting buildings, and laboring diligently until 1881, when he sold this farm and purchased a farm four miles south of the city, on which he continued until advancing years advised him it would be wise to retire. He accordingly, in 1884, left the farm in the hands of a renter, and took up his residence in Pawnee City, where he occupies a pleasant home and is surrounded by all the comforts of life.

The early home of Mr. Gallagher was in Chester County, Pa., where his birth took place March 27, 1814. His father, William Gallagher, was a native of New Hampshire and a blacksmith by trade. In early manhood, leaving New England, he migrated to Pennsylvania, and was there married to Miss Mary Davis, a native of Chester County, Pa. They settled not far from the early home of the wife, and there spent the remainder of their days, passing away under the roof-tree which sheltered them when they began life's journey together. They were the parents of seven children, two sons and five daughters, of whom Davis was next to the youngest. The mother of our subject died when he was a little lad three years of age, and he was reared by his aunt and grandmother, the latter Mrs. Susan Davis, with whom he lived until a youth of seventeen.

Our subject was the child of his father's first marriage. He also served an apprenticeship at the



blacksmith trade, at which he worked in Muskingum County, Ohio, and when twenty-one years old was married, in 1835, to Miss Elizabeth Morrison, of that county, where she had been born April 22, 1817, and reared to womanhood. Mrs. G. is the daughter of Nathaniel and Anna (Yauger) Morrison, whose family comprised eleven children. After their marriage our subject and his wife settled in Blue Rock Township, Muskingum Co., Ohio, where he engaged in different employments. In the fall of 1853 he decided to seek the more western country, and moved with his family to Andrew County, Mo., where they lived two years. Next they took up their residence in Nebraska, and their subsequent movements we have already indicated.

In due time there came to the household of Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher seven interesting children, the eldest of whom, a daughter, Ann, became the wife of Daniel Lemming; Mary married Samuel Howard; Hannah is the wife of John Ward; Susan was married, and died when about thirty-two years old; John D. is a resident of Colorado; James M. is at home with his parents. The political sentiments of our subject coincide most emphatically with the principles of the Republican party. He and his estimable wife present the extraordinary picture of a couple who have lived amicably together for a period of fifty-three years, both young looking for their age and in good health. Mr. Gallagher cast his first vote for Martin Van Buren, being a member of the old Whig party until its abandonment by the organization of the Republican. He owns his town residence and also a good farm in Clay Precinct.

**G**OTTFRIED BUROW. In the life history of the subject of this record is presented an illustration of strength of character, patience and resolution not often to be met with. He is a man who has battled with great difficulties in life, and one who has achieved more than ordinary success amid discouragements and trials that would have dismayed most men. From a modest beginning, unassisted, he has accumulated a fine property, being now the owner of 748 acres of valuable

land lying on sections 1, 2 and 10, Table Rock Precinct. The whole of this is enclosed with neat and substantial fencing, largely of hedge, and none of it is waste land. The buildings are neat and substantial, and the entire estate reflects great credit upon our subject, who built it up largely from an uncultivated tract of land. Of late years he has been extensively interested in stock-raising, keeping excellent grades of horses, cattle and swine. He is a man widely and favorably known throughout Pawnee County as one having been no unimportant factor in the development of its great natural resources.

Mr. Burow first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska in the spring of 1857. Not provided with any very great amount of means, he took eighty acres of Government land, most of which was prairie, although there was upon it some timber. He turned the first furrow himself, and as rapidly as possible effected the improvement of his purchase, by putting up the buildings most needed, and planting fruit and shade trees. He had only labored a few years, however, when the notes of war began to resound throughout the land, calling upon every good patriot to shoulder arms in defense of the Union.

Mr. Burow now laid aside his personal plans and interests, and in the face of what he knew would prove a great detriment to his property by his absence, enlisted in Company E, 13th Kansas Infantry, at Marysville, in August, 1862. His regiment was assigned to the army doing duty along the Arkansas River, meeting the enemy at Prairie Grove, Van Buren and Port Smith, and reaching Little Rock just as the place was taken by the federals. There was still, however, fighting to do, and Mr. Burow, although frequently in the thickest of it, received only a slight wound in the finger from a spent ball. Later he was in other important engagements, his army service comprising two years and eleven months. The hard marches and exposures of camp life so told on his constitution that he almost lost his hearing, and is now quite deaf.

Our subject entered the ranks in perfect health, but the hardships and privations incident to the life of a soldier resulted in his contracting an in-



curable disease, from which he suffers to the present day. He has expended hundreds of dollars in treatment with comparatively little relief, and has never since been in the enjoyment of good health. Notwithstanding this affliction told greatly upon his mental and physical powers, his wonderful energy and perseverance kept him up, and he has all along managed his business affairs with the good judgment seldom seen in men in perfect health. After receiving his honorable discharge at Little Rock he proceeded to Leavenworth to be paid off. Then returning to Nebraska, he, in company with his brother William, took up 160 acres additional land, which he likewise improved. When returning from the army he could not have purchased a box of matches, and the fact that he is to-day a well-to-do man, is a forcible illustration of what may be accomplished by sturdy perseverance and good management.

The Burow homestead is considered one of the finest in Pawnee County, and the family one of the wealthiest and most honored. The first dwelling of our subject and his estimable wife was a small log house in which they lived until 1874. The summer following this was replaced by a fine large dwelling, two stories in height, and was at that time considered the finest residence in this part of the county. Such was the nature of its construction, that it still retains its original solidity, being placed on a solid stone foundation, the walls filled in with concrete. The residence with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive pictures in the landscape of this region. Its surroundings, fruit and shade trees, with the neat and convenient out-buildings, the stabling for cattle and horses, the live stock and the farm machinery, complete the idea of the modern country home.

The first windmill put up within ten or twelve miles of here was erected by the enterprise of Mr. Burow. Later he purchased another, and has all the other machinery required for the successful prosecution of agriculture and stock growing. A school district was not organized until ten years after his settlement here. In this project he was one of the leading men, and was also active in the erection of the first school building. He is a believer in education, and in giving to the young all

the advantages which shall make of them reliable and worthy citizens. For two years a school was conducted in his house. He was at an early date selected to discharge the duties of the various local offices, as a man of ability and integrity, and one who had the interests of the people ever in mind. He, however, has never been an office-seeker, but has been willing to do what he could for the good of his community, just as he left his farming business and went to the war from pure patriotism. Nebraska then not having been admitted into the Union as a State, there was no law which could have compelled him to serve in the army.

Many and interesting are the tales which Mr. Burow can relate of pioneer days of Pawnee County. The first grain which he raised was transported to Nebraska City, the nearest market, and he was obliged to repair to Brownville for groceries, a journey occupying from two to eight days. This trip he at first made with a yoke of yearling steers through snow several inches deep, and all he was able to buy upon that occasion was two sacks of flour. For several years afterward the nearest mill was Blacklaw's, eight miles from him, the home of his nearest neighbor, and in order to get there he was obliged to ford the Nemaha, there being no bridge. Upon one occasion, while crossing the river with lumber, his wagon was capsized and his lumber floated into the water, while he came near losing his life. Later he had the satisfaction of assisting to build the first bridge on the Nemaha. When he came here there was not a bridge in the precinct. Shortly after his first settlement he purchased of a friend a yoke of cattle for \$100 on time. These he employed in transporting produce to Nebraska City. Not long afterward one of the animals lost its hoof and had to be shot. This was only an illustration of the difficulties and discouragements which beset our pioneer.

Afterward Mr. Burow and his brother purchased for \$300 a span of mares, one of which was accidentally killed. He was then \$400 in debt for one horse and one ox, for which he had not even been required to give a note. The people, trusting to his honesty, permitted him to keep his land, which might have been taken to liquidate these debts. Upon the heels of these disasters came the grass-

hopper plague, and it would seem that almost any ordinary man would have packed up his merchandise and sought another country. Mr. Burow, however, had come to stay, and determined to see the end. Time has developed to what a wise issue his judgment led him. He is now not only in the enjoyment of a snug fortune, but is a man universally esteemed for his high character.

Gottfried Burow was born May 12, 1829, in the Prussian Province of Pomerania, and lived there until a man of twenty-seven years. Upon emigrating to America he first settled in Jefferson County, Wis., where he operated a farm two years, then came to Nebraska. In this region he found a wife, being married July 10, 1872, to Miss Louisa Frank, who was born March 20, 1856, in the Province of Pomerania, Prussia, and came to Nebraska with her parents in 1877. Mr. and Mrs. B. began life together on the pioneer farm in this county, and in due time became the parents of eight children, who were named respectively: Ernest E., William, Charles, Minnie, August, George, Gottfried and Luther. They are all living, and present an interesting family group which is pleasant to look upon. They are being the recipients of a practical education, and will make good and reliable citizens, a credit to the name of their honored father.

Gottfried Burow, Sr., father of our subject, was a native of the Province of Pomerania, Germany, a sturdy, honest, hard-working man, who provided comfortably for his family, and fulfilled life's duties in a quiet and unobtrusive manner, content to make little stir in the world. Both he and his excellent wife spent their entire lives on their native soil, and both died the fall before their son Gottfried sailed for America.

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**M**RS. POLLY HACHENBERG. The fine farm owned and operated by the lady with whose name we introduce this sketch, and which is located on section 4, Plum Creek Precinct, invariably attracts the attention of the passerby. The thorough and skillful manner in which it has been conducted is a matter of com-

ment from all the country around. Mrs. Hachenberg, since the decease of her husband, has managed the estate with rare ability, maintaining its former reputation and increasing its value year by year. She possesses intelligence and refinement in a marked degree, and has the true conception of life in the country, and the manner in which a farm should be conducted. Her observations of life have been extended and liberal, and she is a lady who has learned well from a varied experience, losing no opportunity to acquire valuable information, whether in regard to business matters, to farm life, or the more delicate and gentle things connected with human existence.

Mrs. Hachenberg is the daughter of an excellent family, her parents having been Dr. James and Sally (Sheffield) McNutt, the former a native of New York State, and the latter of Ohio. Her paternal grandfather, James McNutt, also a native of New York, traced his ancestry to the North of Ireland, the family having been one of those who fled to that region from Scotland on account of religious persecution. Grandfather McNutt upon leaving his native place settled upon a tract of land in Geauga County, Ohio, where he was one of the leading pioneers, and where he spent his last days. The maternal grandfather was John Sheffield, likewise born in the Empire State, and of English descent. He, too, was a pioneer of the Buckeye State, and died in Geauga County.

James McNutt, the father of our subject, was but a boy when his parents removed from his native State to Ohio, and he afterward lived in both Knox and Delaware Counties, owning finally in the latter a farm of 100 acres. In 1851 he sold out and started for the country beyond the Mississippi, making the journey overland with a team, and pitching his tent in Allamakee County, Iowa, of which he was one of the early settlers. He improved a good farm, but, perhaps like Daniel Boone, felt pressed for room as the country became populated, and pushed on toward the frontier to this county, homesteading a tract of land in Miles Precinct. With this and the amount he purchased he was subsequently owner of 320 acres, and upon this he spent the remainder of his life, passing away in 1871. The mother survived her husband until



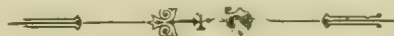
1875, dying at the age of sixty-eight years. Both were members of the United Brethren Church. In connection with farming the father practiced medicine for a period of twenty years. Their nine children were named respectively: Polly, Mrs. H.; Samuel, Cordelia and Mary; the three latter are deceased; Clorinda, a resident of this State; Lorana, who died in Nebraska; Sarah, James and Caroline.

The subject of our sketch was born in Geauga County, Ohio, June 22, 1826, and was eleven years old when her parents removed to Delaware County, where she was reared to womanhood. She accompanied the family to Iowa, and in 1844 was married to Mr. Hiram Hachenberg. This gentleman was the eldest child of Jacob and Mary (Knouse) Hachenberg, natives of Pennsylvania, and of German descent. They removed to Lagrange County, Ind., at an early day, where they spent the remainder of their lives. Mr. Hachenberg was born in Pennsylvania, May 20, 1818, and was quite young when his parents removed to Indiana, where he was reared to manhood. He served as a private through the entire Mexican War. He then went to Allamakee County, Iowa, and purchased eighty acres of land, from which he constructed a good farm. Later he removed to Benton, in Wright County, but finally returned to Allamakee, about the time of the outbreak of the Civil War. In 1862 he enlisted, and thereafter participated in some of the most important battles of the war—Chattanooga, Nashville, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge and the siege of Vicksburg, and marched with Sherman to the sea, fighting before Atlanta—in fact going through the entire war, and was mustered out in the spring of 1865. His record was similar to that of thousands of others, prolific with hardships and privations, which were borne with soldierly courage and fortitude.

On receiving his honorable discharge from the army, Mr. Hachenberg resumed farming in Iowa, where he continued until the fall of 1867. He then determined to cast his lot among the pioneers of this county, and accordingly migrated hither overland with a team, bringing with him his family, crossing the Missouri at Brownville, and homesteading a tract of land on Wolf Creek, in Plum Creek Precinct. In due time he added forty acres

to the quarter-section he had first selected, and upon this farm he effected most of the improvements which the passerby views to-day with admiring eye. He set out groves and orchards, put up a substantial dwelling, a good barn and other necessary buildings, enclosed his fields, and cross-fenced them with hedge and wire, and brought the soil to a fine state of cultivation. Later he engaged successfully in stock-raising. He died Sept. 22, 1877.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hachenberg there came a bright and interesting family of ten children, of whom George, Hiram, Adeline and John are deceased; Mary is the wife of George Strockey, who is engaged in the grocery trade at Beatrice; Sarah, Mrs. John Haining, lives with her husband on a farm on Sardine Creek; James is married, and farming in Ness County, Kan.; Lizzie is the wife of Webster Cole, a well-to-do farmer of Washington Territory; Lucy remains at home with her mother; Bessie is the wife of A. Summers, of Washington Territory. Mr. Hachenberg uniformly voted the Republican ticket, and was a member of the State Grange.



**C**ALEB HITCHCOCK. Notwithstanding the forbidding elements of frontier life during the early settlement of Nebraska Territory, there drifted to it many men of admirable qualities, just such men as were needed to develop its resources and bring it to its present state. In making mention of these, the name of Caleb Hitchcock cannot very properly be left out of the category. Although an individual quiet and unobtrusive in his life, he has made his impress among the agricultural interests of Clay Precinct, and has constructed one of its most creditable homesteads. A man honest and upright in his dealings, he possesses in a marked degree the solid respect and esteem of his neighbors, while his industry has placed him upon a sound footing financially.

In looking back to the source from which our subject sprang, we find that he is the son of Lucien Hitchcock, and that his paternal grandfather, Isaac Hitchcock, was a native of Maryland, where he was reared to man's estate and married, and where his son Lucien was born. Later the family all emi-



grated to Perry County, Ohio, during the early manhood of Lucien, settling upon a tract of land from which they constructed a homestead, where Grandfather Hitchcock and his estimable wife spent their last days. Lucien was married in Perry County to Miss Penelope Marshall, who bore him nine children, of whom Caleb, our subject, was the second. Of these six are still living.

Caleb Hitchcock was reared to man's estate in his native county, becoming familiar with the various pursuits of farm life, and acquired his education in the district schools. He was united in marriage on the 9th of October, 1851, his bride being Miss Mary Brown. This lady was the daughter of Joseph and Ann (Kelley) Brown, the former of whom served as a drummer boy all through the War of 1812. Mr. Hitchcock continued farming in the Buckeye State until 1853, then removed with his little family to Tazewell County, Ill., where he sojourned and carried on agriculture until the fall of 1877. His next removal was to this county, and his first purchase was a farm one and one-half miles south of Pawnee City. He occupied this until 1884, then purchased a farm of 200 acres on section 15, which comprises his present homestead. He also has eighty acres located elsewhere in Clay Precinct.

Mrs. Mary (Brown) Hitchcock departed this life at the homestead in Clay Precinct; Oct. 3, 1884, when a little over fifty years of age, having been born May 10, 1834. She had united with the Methodist Episcopal Church when a maiden of seventeen years, in the faith of which she lived and died triumphantly. She was a lady possessing all the Christian virtues, and left a bereaved husband and six children to mourn their loss. Their eldest son, George W., is a resident of this county; Mary L. is the wife of Robert Cruse; Amanda E. is Mrs. Joseph P. Fost; Sarah J. is the wife of Walton Peterson; John M. is living at home; James F. died in infancy; Jacob A. is at home. Their first child died in infancy unnamed.

On the 27th of June, 1886, Mr. Hitchcock contracted a second marriage, with Miss Jennie, daughter of George W. and Charlotte (Hoops) Reed. The parents of this lady were natives of Perry County, Ohio, where also she was born April 4, 1856. Mrs. Reed departed this life in 1857. Mr. Reed is still

living, and a resident of Rawlins County, Kan. They were the parents of two children, both daughters. The elder sister of Mrs. H. is Emma, wife of James Tannyhill. Mr. Reed was thrice married after the death of his first wife.

In religious matters Mr. and Mrs. Hitchcock are partial to the doctrines and observances of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but as there is no society of that denomination convenient to them they identified themselves with the United Brethren. Mr. Hitchcock, politically, is a firm supporter of Republican principles,



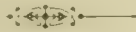
REV. ROBERT J. McCREADY, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church, and a man greatly in favor with his people and the community generally, is a native of that part of Beaver County, Pa., which is now New Galilee, and was born Feb. 14, 1840. In the family of his parents, Hugh and Agnes (Sharp) McCready, there were six children, three sons and three daughters, Robert J. being the fourth in order of birth. The parents were both natives of the Keystone State, where they spent their entire lives, making their home in the agricultural districts. The father was a plain and industrious farmer, and the parents reared their children to habits of industry and principles of honor.

The boyhood and youth of our subject were spent among his native hills, and he pursued his studies in the district school until approaching the age of eighteen years, when he emigrated to Ohio and entered Franklin College, from which he was graduated in 1865. Later we find him a student of the Theological Seminary at Xenia, where he spent four years, and was ordained by the Presbytery at Wheeling. In the spring of 1869 he came to Pawnee City and took charge of what was at that time a mission consisting of nine members. By his devoted efforts he has brought it up to a society of 355 members, which circumstance is sufficient proof of the industry and fidelity with which he has labored. The church edifice which they now occupy was put up in 1884, and forms a place of

resort for a large number of people outside of the regular members.

Rev. Robert McCready was united in marriage with Miss Maggie E. Yost, of Harrison County, Ohio, Dec. 29, 1870. Mrs. McCready was born in that county, March 11, 1848, and is the daughter of Elias Yost, who is now in Harrisville, Ohio. Of this union there are six children, namely: Maggie D., Mary E., Carrie J., Eva G., Lizzie M. and Lucy V. The church and parsonage are located in the eastern part of the city, and the latter is frequented by its most cultivated people.

During the late war Mr. McCready served two years and three months in the defense of his country, going into service at the beginning of the struggle as a member of Company K, 10th Pennsylvania Reserve Corps, attached to the Army of the Potomac, and participated in the campaign before Richmond until disabled by exposure. He received his honorable discharge in Virginia, Aug. 26, 1863.



**H**ON. W. J. HALDERMAN, Cashier and part proprietor of the Burchard Bank, a man of conspicuous ability, large enterprise, keen perception, vigorous thought and unblemished character, has played a conspicuous part in the upbuilding of Pawnee County, and to-day stands among the foremost citizens in business and social circles. He won an enviable military record in the late war, and as a legislator and civic officer since becoming a resident of Nebraska has again gained distinction.

Mr. Halderman is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Butler County, April 13, 1840. His father, whose given name was Samuel, was born in Center County, the same State, in 1803, and that was also the birthplace of his mother, whose maiden name was Margaret Kohlmeyer, she having been born in 1806. His paternal grandfather, who was a native of Germany, came to America in early manhood and cast in his lot with the pioneer farmers of Center County, Pa., and was instrumental in opening up the country and developing its agriculture, and there he finally died at an extreme old age. George Kohlmeyer, the maternal grandfather of our

subject, was born in Hanover, Germany, and was a soldier in one of the German wars, receiving at one time a sword thrust through the shoulder, which came near ending his life. After leaving the army he turned his attention to farming, and eventually emigrated to America, where he engaged in the same occupation in Center County, Pa. He subsequently moved to Butler County, in the same State, and there his life was closed at the advanced age of eighty-five years.

The father of our subject was reared to the life of a farmer on his father's homestead, and received but limited school advantages. He was married in his native county, and there began farming on his own account, eliminating a farm from the primeval forests. In 1833 he moved with his family to Butler County, and carried on agricultural pursuits there, hewing out another farm from the wilderness, said farm comprising 200 acres. He spent his last days in Butler County, rounding out an honorable and lengthy life in 1883, his wife following him the succeeding year. They were exemplary Christians, esteemed members of the Lutheran Church, and people who were thought very highly of by the many friends whom they gathered around them during their sojourn of fifty years in Butler County. They were the parents of the following children: Mary, Dan, Jackson, Catherine, Wash, Nancy (dead), Ellen, W. J., John (dead), Sarah, Euphemia, Finley (dead.) Wash was in the war for a short time, enlisting from Ohio.

Our subject was reared on the old homestead in Pennsylvania, which had been his birthplace. His educational privileges were confined to attendance at the winter schools. He remained at home until after the breaking out of the war. He was then just entering upon manhood, and in September, 1861, he threw aside all personal aims, his one ambition being a desire to serve his country in her hour of peril, and enlisted in the 11th Pennsylvania Infantry, Company C, 3d Brigade, 3d Division, 5th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, and was mustered in at Camp Tenally. His regiment was dispatched to Virginia, and there took part in many important engagements, as follows: Drainesville, the seven-days fight in front of Richmond, the battle of Mechanicsville, that of Gaines' Mills, etc.



In the second day of the battle at Gaines' Mills, our subject was wounded through the left leg above the knee, and, with the rest of his regiment, taken prisoner, and sent to Libby Prison, Richmond, June 28, 1862. He was confined there sixty days, and had to dress his wound and bandage it every day, there being no competent surgeon. At the expiration of that time he was sent to Baltimore and exchanged, and joining his regiment at South Mountain, took an active part in that battle, and was also in the engagement the next day at Antietam. In the battle of Fredericksburg he was again wounded, a ball penetrating through the left hip, and he was sent to the hospital at Washington to recruit. In four months' time he was able to join his regiment, and did so at Munson's Hill. His regiment was then dispatched to guard the railway at Vienna, Va., and for several months was engaged in skirmishing with the guerrillas. Our subject and his comrades then accompanied the army into Pennsylvania, in pursuit of Gen. Lee and his men, and they took a conspicuous part in the battle of Gettysburg during the three days that that famous conflict was waged, and our subject's brigade held Little Round Top against the assaults of the enemy. In July, 1863, they crossed the Rapidan and engaged in the battle of Mine Run, and were also present at the second battle of Bull Run. They had an engagement with the rebels at Bristol Station, and our subject fought gallantly in the battles of the Wilderness, and was a participator in the various skirmishes that took place every day on the march to Richmond. He was present at the siege of Petersburg and did efficient service. His term of enlistment expired in September, 1864, and our subject, who went into the army as a private, and by the exercise of courage and other qualities that mark the true soldier, had climbed up from the ranks through the different grades to the rank of Second Lieutenant, was honorably discharged and retired to private life. He returned to his Pennsylvania home and engaged as a clerk in a dry-goods store for a short time, until he should determine what course in life to pursue. In 1866 he decided to try his fortunes in the West, and removing to Illinois, established himself in the grocery business in Mendota, and subsequently engaged in the same

at Yates City. In the spring of 1867 he went to Kansas, and buying 160 acres of wild land in Douglas County, began to improve a farm, and remained there for one year. He then retraced his steps eastward as far as Leetonia, Ohio, where he operated a general store for a year. In 1869 he once more turned his face westward, and coming by rail, located in Nebraska, in Mission Creek Precinct, and putting up a store, stocked it with general merchandise. He did well at that, and while still managing his store, bought 320 acres of wild land on section 25, and entered upon its improvement. In 1873 he sold his business to Mr. Walker and took up his residence on his farm, and continued to improve it, and extensively engaged in agriculture and stock-raising.

Mr. Halderman had been a resident of Pawnee County but a few years before he became well and favorably known by the people through his political affiliations, he being an active member of the Republican party, and a delegate occasionally to County and State Conventions, and in 1876 his fellow-citizens elected him to represent them in the Sixteenth Nebraska Legislature. He served two years, and during this term Senator Saunders was sent to Washington. Our subject showed himself to be a wise and patriotic statesman, who earnestly and unselfishly sought the highest good of his adopted State. In the fall of 1881 Mr. Halderman being elected County Treasurer, sold his farm and moved to Pawnee City, and established his residence there during his term of office, which extended to 1885. He then removed to Burchard, and buying an interest in the Burchard Bank, became cashier, and has carried on banking ever since. He is an extensive stockholder in the bank, and his connection with it, in company with the other officials, gives it a high standing among the monetary institutions of Pawnee County. Mr. Halderman is also engaged in farming, paying special attention to raising blooded stock, having a pedigreed herd of thirty Short-horns, besides raising hogs. His farm of eighty acres is finely located just outside of the town, on section 7, Miles Precinct, which property he improved himself.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Ida Fulton took place in Pawnee City, Sept. 10, 1869, and of



their happy wedded life three children have been born, namely: Fulton, Finley W. and Charles W. Mrs. Halderman was born in Harrison County, Iowa, received a superior education, and was engaged in teaching before her marriage.

In the perusal of this sketch it will be seen that Mr. Halderman, as an excellent financier and a wide-awake business man, has done much to establish the material prosperity of Pawnee County on a solid basis, and this is especially true of the village of Burchard, of which he may be considered one of the founders. He has erected here one of the finest buildings in the western part of the county, and has in other ways encouraged local enterprise. Besides the offices mentioned, he has been Assessor, Postmaster, etc. He belongs to the A. O. U. W. at Pawnee City, and to the G. A. R. of the same place. Both he and his wife are influential members of the Presbyterian Church, and they liberally contribute to its support and to all good causes that come under their notice.



**R**ICHARD McDONALD. The elegant residence constituting the home of this gentleman, and the manner in which he is spoken of by the people who have known him, for these many years, indicate him to be a man of more than ordinary capacities, both in connection with his business career, and as a citizen. He retired from the active labors of farm life in 1887, and is numbered among the prominent men of Burchard and vicinity, who have been instrumental in the growth and development of this county. He owns a fine farm in Plum Creek Precinct, and has valuable property elsewhere. In 1887 he was elected Justice of the Peace, and is still holding the office, besides occupying other positions of trust and responsibility.

The ancestry of our subject is one of which he may well be proud. The first representative of the family whose record has been preserved was Roderick McDonald, of Scotland, who was a man of wealth and importance in his native shire, where it is probable he spent his entire life. Among his descendants was Patrick McDonald, the paternal

grandfather of our subject, and who occupied his castle at Bennett's Bridge, in County Kilkenny, Ireland—the McDonalds, like many others of that time, having been obliged to flee from their native country on account of religious persecution, settling in the North of Ireland. He spent his entire life afterward in County Kilkenny. There also his son Michael, the father of our subject, was born and reared. He married Miss Bridget Mahar, a native of the same county, and the daughter of Lieut. Patrick Mahar, who served in the Yeoman Cavalry. Later he became a large land-owner, and died in 1849, when nearly one hundred years old.

The father of our subject was reared in his native county, and engaged in wholesale merchandising, dealing largely in wool, tallow, pork and flour. He died in 1841, at the age of forty-eight years, in his native county. The mother kept her little family together, and seven years later emigrated to America, settling in Norwich, Conn., where she spent the remainder of her days, passing away in 1858, at the age of sixty years. Of her children, nine in number, three are deceased—Thomas, Bridget and Patrick. The survivors are—Margaret, Mary, Ellen, Anastasia, Patrick (2d) and Richard.

Our subject, the youngest child of his parents, was born, like them, in County Kilkenny, Ireland, Nov. 12, 1839. He was a lad of nine years when his mother emigrated to America, and he remembers many of the incidents connected therewith, especially the long voyage on the sailing-vessel "Old Harmony," which conveyed them from Liverpool to New York City, the voyage occupying six weeks. He attended the common schools in Norwich, Conn., and at an early age began an apprenticeship at stone-cutting, which he followed until the outbreak of the Rebellion. Although then but twenty-two years of age, he entered the service, enlisting in Company B, 9th Connecticut Infantry, being mustered in at Ship Island. After a few minor engagements with the enemy, he participated in the capture of New Orleans, and later did garrison duty around the city. He subsequently joined the army of Gen. Butler, going to Vicksburg, and being present throughout the siege of that city. Later he was in the fight at Grand

Gulf and Baton Rouge, which witnessed the defeat of the rebel General, Breckinridge, then embarked with the Red River expedition. At the expiration of his first term of enlistment he veteranized, was given a brief furlough, and in the spring of 1863 rejoined his regiment in Mississippi. He afterward fought at Petersburg, Va., and skirmished along the James River, meeting the rebels at Deep Bottom, Strawberry Plains, and in other minor engagements. He went up and down the valley of the Shenandoah with Gen. Sheridan, and was afterward at the battle of Winchester and Fisher's Hill, later skirmishing around Perryville and other unimportant points. At Fisher's Hill he was wounded by a minie ball, although not seriously. Later his command was sent to Baltimore on garrison duty, and at the time of Lee's surrender was in Savannah, Ga.

Mr. McDonald was mustered out of the service at Hilton Head, S. C., and shortly afterward received his honorable discharge. He returned to New Haven, Conn., taking up his residence in Norwich, and resumed work at his trade of stone-cutting, being soon promoted to the position of overseer of a company of men. Two years later we find him on his way to Nebraska. He reached Omaha by rail, and was employed on the stone work of the Union Pacific Railroad Bridge, at Omaha, assisting to lay with his own hands the first stone of the structure, ninety feet below low water mark, with an air pressure of thirty-five pounds. When this structure was completed, he was promoted to the post of overseer in laying and cutting stone at Omaha, which he occupied about three years. He remained in the employ of this company in all a period of eleven years.

In 1877, changing his occupation somewhat, Mr. McDonald entered the employ of Tootle, Maul & Co., as receiving clerk, remaining with them nine years, and in the meantime became interested somewhat in real estate. In 1886 he took up his residence on his farm in Plum Creek Precinct, this comprising 160 acres on section 9. Upon this he has made all the improvements which we see to-day, and which comprises a good set of buildings, neat and substantial fences, and other modern appliances of the successful agriculturist. The land is

finely located and watered by Plum Creek. Mr. McDonald has been for several years engaged in the breeding of fine horses and cattle, having of the latter usually about eight head, including some fine specimens of the equine race. In his cattle operations he has reason to be proud of his achievements.

In 1880 Mr. McDonald purchased ground in the city of Burchard, where he put up a very handsome residence, and also a store building. He had been married, in 1869, in Norwich, Conn., to Miss Mary Duffy, a native of his own county in Ireland, and who died at their home in Omaha, March 17, 1883. Mr. McDonald, in February, 1885, contracted a second marriage, with Miss Eliza Carver, a native of Connecticut, and born in 1852. He was elected Justice of the Peace in 1887, and has been a member of the Town Board for some time. He was reared in the Catholic faith, and remains loyal to his early training. He is a Trustee and Treasurer of his church at Burchard. Politically, he is a strong Republican, and labors industriously as opportunity offers for the interests of his party. Socially, he belongs to the G. A. R., of Omaha.

Our subject organized a company of 112 men, and went to Canada and took part in the battle of Ridgway, under Gen. O'Neal, and has always been identified with the liberal movement.

**THEODORE HALL.** There is no question that farm property proves one of the best investments which a man can make of his labor and capital. It cannot take wings and fly away, or be carried off by the bank cashier. The subject of this sketch has evidently adhered to this idea, and he has been amply rewarded in consequence thereof. He is now in the enjoyment of a snug homestead, pleasantly located on section 34, Table Rock Precinct, comprising forty acres of carefully cultivated land, and substantial buildings. He has operated upon the plan of Horace Greeley, that a moderate amount of soil thoroughly cultivated will yield to its possessor fully as good results as a large farm partially neglected.

Our subject first set foot upon the soil of Ne-







John Flanagan



Sarah Jane Flanagan



braska in the spring of 1866, settling with his parents upon a tract of new land in the vicinity of Brownville. They sojourned there about thirteen years, battling with the elements of a new soil, then removed to a point near Humboldt, living there also thirteen years. At this latter place Theodore attained his majority, and completed his education in the Brownville school. Afterward he worked at his father's farm until his marriage, which occurred Feb. 1, 1883. The lady of his choice was Miss Isabella Keiser. They settled upon a farm three miles west of Humboldt, where they lived four years. They are the parents of one child, a son, Roy H., who was born Nov. 9, 1883. Mr. Hall, in addition to general farming, gives considerable attention to the raising of grain, and has effected good improvements on his place, putting up a neat and substantial residence, and adding from time to time the other structures necessary for his convenience.

Mr. Hall is a native of Atchison County, Mo., and was born Dec. 19, 1861, living there with his parents until coming to Nebraska. He is the son of Charlton Hall, a native of Bureau County, Ill., who removed early in life to Missouri, where he married Miss Zuritha Plasters; they became the parents of eight children, and the father carried on farming the greater part of his life, until about 1885, when he retired from active labor, and now makes his home in Humboldt. He still retains ownership of his farm property, owning land both in Pawnee and Richardson Counties.

The wife of our subject was born in Morgan County, Ill., Sept. 12, 1860, where her parents lived until she was a child five years of age. They then came to this county, and for a period of twenty-three years have lived within five miles of Table Rock. Mr. and Mrs. Keiser began housekeeping in a log house, which they occupied a year, until they could put up a more modern dwelling. Mrs. Hall in her childhood days walked three miles to school, before the organization of a district near her father's homestead, after which she finished her studies there, obtaining a good education.

Mr. Hall, politically, was born and reared under the wing of the Democratic party, but has very little to do with politics, and prefers that some

other man should assume the responsibilities of office. His close attention to his farming interests has not only been a benefit to himself, but the land which he has developed has thus much enhanced the real-estate value of Table Rock Precinct. He has pursued the even tenor of his way as a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, encouraging worthy enterprises, and giving his influence to those which would result in the best good of the community around him. He is comparatively a young man, and has obtained a good start on the highway to prosperity.



**JOHN FLANAGIN.** There are those in every community who will be leaders in spite of circumstances, drawbacks and difficulties. The gentleman whose name heads this biographical sketch may be most properly mentioned as one of this class, as through his own unaided efforts he has arisen to a high position, socially and financially. He owns and occupies a valuable farm property in Clay Precinct, and is widely and favorably known throughout this section of country.

The man of intelligence, whenever possible, preserves the record of his ancestry, as having no little bearing upon his own life and the estimation in which he is held by his fellowmen. There have, in various instances, been circumstances which prevented this, and in such a case it is always a matter of regret to the thoughtful and observant individual. We gather from the record of the Flanagin family that our subject's father and paternal grandfather were each given the name of James, and both were born in New Jersey. Upon reaching manhood the latter was married to a Miss Mary Harris, and they reared a family of eight children, namely: James, Jr., the father of our subject; Noah, Thomas, John, Gideon, Harris; Sarah, who married Joseph Shepherd, and Mary Ann, who became the wife of Joseph Guest. Grandfather Flanagin was a farmer by occupation, and reared his sons and daughters in love of agricultural pur-

suits, which they followed until called from earth's duties.

James Flanagin, Jr., was reared on the home farm with his parents, in New Jersey, but when approaching manhood learned the cabinet-maker's trade, at which he worked a period of ten years. After this, however, he fell into the habits of his ancestors, and taking up agriculture, was thus occupied until his earthly labors were ended. He was married in Cumberland County, N. J., to Miss Mary Harris. They lived in that county until their decease, the father passing away in 1859, and the mother twelve years later, in 1871. They also were the parents of eight children, all of whom lived to mature years, having been named respectively: James, Harris, Jacob, John; Rachel, who became the wife of James Glaspey; Elizabeth, Mrs. William Dare; Mary A., the wife of Alford Mumford, and Hannah.

John Flanagin, our subject, was reared and educated in New Jersey, of which he, like his father and grandfather, was a native, having been born there Feb. 12, 1835. Ambitious and thoughtful beyond his years, he started for the West in the fall of 1858, his objective point being Nebraska Territory. Upon coming to this county he pre-empted 160 acres of land, which is included in his present farm. His first dwelling was a structure sixteen feet square, built of round logs, with clap-board roof and floor of cottonwood lumber. The cracks were covered by nailing boards over them and between the logs. This served as a shelter during the summer months which followed, but in the fall Mr. Flanagin dug a cellar, walled it up firmly, and built over it a plank roof. He occupied this something over a year, then removing the roof, built a house over it, this latter being now one of the most substantial and attractive dwellings in the precinct. The farm embraces 520 acres, thoroughly improved, the greater part devoted to grain-raising, and the balance to pasture.

It is nearly twenty-eight years since was celebrated the marriage of John Flanagin and Miss Sarah J. Rogers, May 9, 1861, being the date. This lady comes from an excellent family, being the daughter of Hon. and Rev. P. M. Rogers, who was a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church,

and also a member of the Nebraska Legislature. A record of his earnest and useful life will be found on another page in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Flanagin commenced the journey of life together in this State, and they now have a family of six children, namely: James, Seward, Marcus, Lewis, Mary and Sadie. In giving a proper supervision to his extensive farming interests, Mr. Flanagin has naturally had little time to devote to politics, but he keeps himself well informed, and independent of political parties, aims to support the men best qualified to serve the interests of the people. He has never been an office-seeker, although serving as Assessor of Clay Precinct two terms. He has watched with warm interest the growth and development of Pawnee County, and in the construction of one of its most valuable homesteads has contributed this much to its importance. He is a man whose opinions are held in respect, and one who exerts no small influence in social and business circles. His accumulations are the result of downright hard work, together with good management, and he has little use for the drones in the world's great hive.

Portraits of this prominent and leading citizen of Clay Precinct and his estimable wife are printed on an adjoining page.

**E**PHRAIM WHEELER. In the world's great hive of industry some are leaders and some are followers. Some are only fitted for the latter, while others will be found in the front ranks, despite all the drawbacks which may assail them. To this latter element is the world indebted for its progress, for no man can labor and contrive successfully without his operations having a material bearing upon the condition of those about him. These thoughts are involuntarily brought forth in reviewing the career of the subject of this history, who is one of the go-ahead men of Pawnee County, one of those who is not to be kept under as long as there is a top to gain.

A pioneer of 1866, Ephraim Wheeler came to that part of Table Rock Precinct which is now Sheridan, and homesteaded 160 acres of land on



section 15, to which he has given his special attention, making it the place of abode for himself and family. Later he purchased eighty acres on section 23. The whole of this land was unimproved, there being neither a tree, a fence nor a building upon it. Having to hire a team, he broke only five acres the first season, which was all he could afford to pay for, and that same year made for his dwelling a cellar of stone, covering it closely, and thus securing a warm, dry place for himself and family, in which they lived comfortably for five years. He effected one improvement after another as rapidly as his means would allow, and purchased his first team in the fall of 1868, a yoke of oxen. In the meantime he worked for his neighbors, helping them to put in their crops, and they in turn assisted him by loaning their teams to him. His first crop of wheat comprised three acres, from which he realized very plentifully. He secured 105 bushels, which provided him with bread and seed for the next year.

The season following Mr. Wheeler sowed eleven acres in wheat, and from this he harvested 300 bushels, and after reserving what was required for the use of the family, exchanged the balance for another yoke of oxen. The nearest market for the pioneer farmers of Table Rock Precinct at that time was at Brownville, forty miles from the farm of Mr. Wheeler. Money was scarce, and provisions were high, and the family maintained themselves as much as possible on the products of their farm, doing without the luxury of groceries. In due time our subject had raised a couple of steers, and was thus enabled to proceed with the cultivation of his land until having the whole of it under the plow. He enclosed his farm with fencing, set out an orchard and a good grove of forest trees, besides the smaller fruits, including cherries, plums and grapes; gathered maple seeds along the Nemaha River which he planted, and it is hardly necessary to say was obliged to wait with patience several years before the little shoots thus obtained could be dignified by the name of trees.

The family in the meantime, in addition to the ordinary hardships and privations of pioneer life, were afflicted with the ague spring and fall for about seven years. Often the emigrants around

them would find the trial too great, and becoming homesick and discouraged, would throw up their claims and return whence they came. Those who persevered, however, like Mr. Wheeler, have now no regrets that they were enabled to adhere to their first resolution. He, especially, has been fortunate, and is now the owner of a valuable farm, with all the necessary machinery, the live stock, and the various other appliances constituting the ideal country home.

The present family residence was completed in the fall of 1871, after considerable delay, Mr. Wheeler being obliged to proceed gradually as his means and time permitted. They moved into it when only the siding was on, and many a time the father took his bed down into the cellar when the children were sick, sleeping on a table. The first winter living in the cellar they had in one end of it a good stove, and in the other made a fire on the ground, the smoke and sparks escaping through the straw roof. Mrs. Wheeler many a time washed her dishes when the ice would form from the drops of water on the table. When the weather became too severe, Mr. Wheeler with his family of nine would repair to a 10x12 shanty on the farm of William Fellers. The makeshifts of those days were as ingenious as they were numerous, and are far more entertaining in the relation than they were in the experience.

After a few years Mr. Wheeler branched out into stock-raising, and in the course of time began to realize the reward of perseverance and industry. The first school-house was two miles from his farm, conducted in a building which he assisted to erect, and for many years he officiated as Director and Treasurer, only withdrawing from the position upon his removal to town, in October, 1886. He was then succeeded by his son, who now operates the old homestead. Mr. Wheeler, politically, is a Democrat of the old school, and from early manhood voted for every Democratic candidate for President with the exception of Horace Greeley. He officiated as Road Supervisor several terms, but for the most part has avoided becoming an office-holder. He is a man who has learned well from a rich and varied experience, is a good financier, prompt to meet his obligations, and in all respects a model



citizen. In religious matters, he and his excellent wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Columbia County, N. Y., was the early tramping ground of our subject, and where his birth took place July 8, 1822. He lived there until a young man of twenty-four years, receiving a practical education in the common school, and working with his father on the farm until his marriage. This important event in his life occurred on the 31st of August, 1844, his bride being Miss Lucinda Fellers, and of this union there have been born eleven children. Nine of these lived to mature years, and eight still survive. Of these latter, Mary E. was born Sept. 9, 1846; William H., Aug. 19, 1848; James T., Jan. 4, 1852; Alida C., July 20, 1854; Alice C., June 7, 1856; Helen S., Oct. 19, 1860; Andrew J., Feb. 25, 1864, and George W., Sept. 25, 1866. Of the deceased, Cora M. was born Nov. 6, 1868, and died at the age of eleven years and nine months; Erastus D. was born Aug. 11, 1858, and died when a little lad six years of age; Catherine A., was born June 18, 1850, and died when one year and six months old.

Mr. W. removed from New York to Pennsylvania in 1849, settling in Luzerne County, and living there until 1866. All but the two eldest children were born in the latter State, and the two youngest in Nebraska. Mr. Wheeler in Pennsylvania employed himself as a coal miner, but disliking this kind of labor, resolved to secure a farm in the West. Mrs. Lucinda (Fellers) Wheeler was born in Columbia County, N. Y., Sept. 3, 1825, and is the daughter of Phillip Fellers, who carried on farming first in that county, and then removed to Dutchess County. He was a native of New York, and married Miss Polly Ringsdorph, which union resulted in the birth of thirteen children. Eight of the thirteen children of whom Mr. Fellers was the father lived to mature years. Miss Ringsdorph was his third wife, and she survived her husband a number of years, her death taking place in New York State. Mr. Fellers died in Dutchess County about 1866.

Andrew Wheeler, the father of our subject, was born in Columbia County, N. Y., where he was reared to manhood, and married Miss Catherine

Ham of the same county. He also was the father of thirteen children, one of whom died at the age of fifteen years. He spent his entire life in his native State, engaged in farming pursuits, and attained to the advanced age of eighty-one years, passing away in the year 1868. The wife and mother died about 1860, being eight or ten years younger than her husband. She was a consistent member of the Presbyterian Church. The eldest daughter living, Mary E., is the wife of Daniel Hamblin, a carpenter of Burlington, Mo., where he also operates as a contractor and bridge builder; they have three children—Hettie, Edna and Estella. William H. married Miss Ellen Van Norman, and they live in Stella, this State; they have three children—Annetta, Esmond and Clarence. Alida C. married Edward Butler, of Atchison County, Mo., and is the mother of three children, one deceased; Alice C. married W. D. Easley, of Falls City, Neb.; Helen, Mrs. E. Shorts, is the mother of one boy, Charles, and lives in Wyandotte, Kan.; Andrew married Miss Ida Bates, is the father of two children, Cora M. and Clarence, and lives at the old homestead; George is unmarried and makes his home with his parents. These children all enjoyed the advantages of a good practical education, and have taken their places in life as worthy citizens. Mr. Wheeler has performed his part nobly in assisting to develop a portion of the primitive soil of Pawnee County, and now, amid the comforts of a pleasant home, and surrounded by hosts of friends, is reaping the reward of a well-spent life.

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**S**AMUEL S. SHANNON. The various members of the Shannon family comprise some of the best elements which came to this county during its earlier days, and bore no unimportant part in bringing it to its present condition. Samuel S., our subject, is a retired farmer in good circumstances, and now making his home in Pawnee City. His career has been one to which his descendants may revert with pride in later years.

The boyhood home of Mr. Shannon was in Giles County, Va., not far from Dublin, the county seat

of Giles County, where he was born Feb. 7, 1832, being the second in a family of five sons. The parents, Thomas R. and Sarah Ann (Allen) Shannon, were also natives of the Old Dominion, whence they emigrated to Indiana in the fall of 1834. The father selected a tract of land in Hendricks County and sojourned there a number of years and until September, 1859, when he started for the farther West with his family, and coming to this county took up 160 acres of land about two miles west of the present site of Pawnee City. It is hardly necessary to say that there was then little indication of the future town. Thomas Shannon was the first homesteader in the county, and upon the farm which he built up from the primitive soil he and his excellent wife spent the remainder of their days. His decease took place in 1872, at the age of sixty-six years, and that of the mother seven years after, when she was seventy-six.

Samuel Shannon, our subject, was reared to man's estate in Hendricks County, Ind., and was given the advantages of the schools under a system most imperfectly developed. He remained a member of the parental household until reaching the twenty-fifth year of his age, then took to himself a wife and helpmate, Miss Mary M. Jones, to whom he was married in Hendricks County, Ind., in 1855. Mrs. Shannon was born and reared to womanhood in that county, and was the daughter of Winn and Margaret Jones, who spent their last years in Indiana. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shannon settled on a farm in Hendricks County, where they lived until the removal of the father's family to Nebraska, accompanying them hither. Our subject took up eighty acres of land and homesteaded 160 acres, the whole of which he improved, with good buildings, and brought the soil to a high state of cultivation. In the meantime both he and his father fought the grasshopper scourge and the other difficulties which beset the pioneer settler. These ravenous insects ate up every green thing, leaving nothing behind them but the bare soil.

Our subject sojourned on his farm until 1884, then wisely retired from active labor and took up his abode in Pawnee City. He occupies a neat and substantial residence of his own building, and welcomes to his hospitable doors a host of friends. To

him and his excellent wife were born four children, only two of whom are living. Sarah A. was married and died, leaving three children; Ollie B. became the wife of Olen Frasier and died, leaving one child. The survivors are Charles W. and William A., who remain at home with their parents.

Mr. Shannon is rather conservative in his political ideas, and aside from serving as a member of the School Board has declined to seek political preferment. His paternal grandparents, Samuel and Elizabeth Shannon, were also natives of Virginia and of Scotch-Irish descent. The maternal grandfather, Thomas Allen, was one of the earliest settlers of Virginia, where he spent his last days.



**M**C. ELLISON is distinguished in the annals of Pawnee County as having been the very first settler in Plum Creek Precinct. He is a well-to-do farmer, and operates a finely improved farm of 160 acres on sections 31 and 32, that precinct. It is beautifully located, and is well watered by a branch of Plum Creek, is furnished with a substantial set of farm buildings, and a good supply of farming machinery, and everything about the neat, well-appointed homestead betokens the thrift, skill, and methodical habits of the owner. He is a farmer of wide experience, and knows well how to cultivate his land so as to make the most of its exceedingly fertile soil, and derives therefrom a comfortable income.

Mr. Ellison was born near Speedwell, Claiborne Co., Tenn., March 10, 1826. His father, Robert Ellison, was born in North Carolina, of which State his father, James Ellison, was likewise a native, of English descent. The latter moved to Tennessee in the early days of its settlement, accompanied by his family, and there spent the remainder of his life, dying at the age of sixty years. He took part in the War of 1812, and was a farmer by occupation. The father of our subject was young when his parents moved to Tennessee, and he was there reared to manhood amid the influences of pioneer life. He bought 200 acres of wild land, and improved it, and continued to reside on his Tennessee homestead until his death, at the age of



sixty years, in 1872. The maiden name of the mother of our subject was Polly Kirk, and she was, like himself, born in Claiborne County, Tenn. Her father was a farmer there, but he subsequently moved to Illinois, and died there. The Kirk family was likewise of English descent. The mother died while still young, in 1839. She and her husband were people of great worth, and were esteemed members of the Baptist Church, and he was a Democrat in his political views. They were the parents of eight children, as follows: Nancy (deceased), Mc., Tilda and James (both deceased), Robert, George, Sally and Polly. Robert and George enlisted from Tennessee in the Union Army, and served throughout the late Civil War. They were taken prisoners and sent to Andersonville, Robert remaining there eighteen months, and George ten months, he finally escaping. He was shot by the guerrillas through the leg, and laid up for a long time.

The subject of this biographical notice grew to man's estate on his father's homestead, and remained an inmate of the old home until he was twenty-three years of age, receiving in the meantime the educational advantages afforded by the common schools. In the spring of 1864 he came to Nebraska, by way of rail to St. Joseph, Mo., and thence by team to this locality, and rented some land on Wolf Creek, which he farmed to some extent. In the fall of that year he took up a tract of land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, which land forms his present farm. It was then in a wild state, and in the busy years that have since followed he has worked a great change in it. He made most of the improvements with cattle, and soon after settling on it he set out groves of maple and cottonwood trees, and some of those trees are now a foot and a half in diameter. He has a valuable orchard of 150 choice fruit trees, and has his farm well hedged. He has put up a good dwelling, barns, etc. He owns, besides his homestead, seventeen acres of timber on Plum Creek. Mr. Ellison pays much attention to the culture of corn, and raises horses, cattle, etc., with excellent success. His farm is well watered by a branch of Plum Creek which runs through it.

Our subject has been twice married, both times

in Claiborne County, Tenn. His first marriage, which took place in 1849, was to Miss Nancy M. Lynch, a native of Claiborne County. The following is the record of the six children born to them: Jay H. is farming on the Otoe Reserve, in Gage County, Neb.; Eli M. and Reily H., both married, are also farming in Gage County; Jeremiah is in the livery business in Liberty; Andrew J. is farming in Gage County; and Emeline is married to Proctor Goin, a farmer in the same county. The wife of his earlier years died in 1881, and our subject was married a second time, Jan. 15, 1884, in Tennessee, Miss Esther Wright, a native of Claiborne County, becoming his wife. To them three children have been born, namely: Margaret A., Esau and Sarah.

Mr. Ellison has met with merited success in life, as he has always been industrious, and has never wronged or defrauded another unjustly, is a good man, a kind and obliging neighbor, and one whom his fellow-citizens can trust. He is a sturdy advocate of the Republican party, and has been a member of the Grand Jury.

**F**RANK PEPPERL, Postmaster of Burchard, and a dealer in agricultural implements, was the first business man to locate here, and he has done much to extend its commercial interests, and to put this enterprising and prosperous little town on a solid basis. He is a native of Bohemia, Austria, born in the town of Gossawoda, Jan. 17, 1853. His parents, Wenzle and Francisca (Leiclid) Pepperl, were likewise Bohemians by birth. Franz Pepperl, the paternal grandfather of our subject, who was born in Austria, was a tailor and also a small farmer, and died in his native land at the age of eighty-three. Franz Leiclid, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was also born in the same country, and there he spent his entire life. He was an overseer on the estate of an Austrian count.

The parents of our subject grew to manhood and womanhood in their native land, and there married and four children were born to them, namely: Frank, Louis, James and Alvin. The father learned the trade of stonemason in early manhood and



followed that to some extent, but the care of a small farm took up most of his attention. In 1874 he emigrated to America with his family, and located in Plum Creek, where he purchased a partly improved farm of 160 acres. He has built up a comfortable home, in which he and his wife are spending their declining years very pleasantly, he being now seventy-three years old and she sixty-three. He has made good improvements on his farm, and has been prospered in both his farming and stock-raising. He and his wife are members in good standing of the Catholic Church, and as kindly, genial people, leading Christian lives, command the respect and esteem of those about them.

Frank Pepperl passed his boyhood in his native town, and being a bright, quick-witted lad received a good education, having very good school advantages. He remained an inmate of his parents' home until he was fourteen years old, when he was apprenticed to learn the cabinet-maker's trade, continuing at it three years. He was an ambitious, high-spirited youth, and deeming that better things awaited him in the great Republic across the sea, in 1869, when seventeen years of age, he made his way to the German coast, and at Bremen embarked on an American-bound steamer, the "Ohio," and nineteen days later landed in Baltimore. From there he proceeded to Chicago, and found work in a cabinet factory. He remained in that city five years, working in different factories, mostly in the one owned by John Koenig & Co., where he was employed three years. In 1874 he decided to avail himself of the many advantages offered by the newer State of Nebraska for young men to make their way in the various business pursuits, trades, etc. After his arrival here he went to work as carpenter and contractor, and built the first school-house in District No. 54. He carried on that business until 1882, and then started in the hardware and implement business in Burchard, and erected a building on Otce street for a store. In the spring of 1888 he sold all of his stock, excepting agricultural implements, which he still sells, having an extensive and lucrative trade in that line. He has invested his money very judiciously, and with other property owns a large tract of partly improved land in Osborne County, Kan., comprising 360 acres,

from the rental of which he derives a good income.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Berdie Dschiska took place in Burchard Village, June 16, 1884, and in their attractive home two children complete the family circle—Frank and Lucy. Mrs. Pepperl was born in the same town where our subject first saw the light of day.

Mr. Pepperl is well endowed mentally, has fine linguistic powers, and since coming to the United States in 1869 has acquired a perfect command of the English language. He interests himself in the affairs and progress of his adopted country, and has identified himself with the Democratic party, being prominent in its councils in Pawnee County, and has been delegate to County and State Conventions. He was appointed to his present position as Postmaster in January, 1888. He is one of the leading civic officers in the local government; is a member of the Town Board, and of the School Board, besides having been Justice of the Peace for eight years. He belongs to the I. O. O. F., of Burchard, has passed the chairs, and has attended the Grand Lodge at different times, and is at present District Deputy. He does all that he can to elevate the moral, social and religious tone of the town, and in him the Catholic Church finds one of its most valuable members; he was a charter member and helped to erect the edifice in which the congregation worships, and is at present Trustee of the church.



JOSEPH N. SMITH, a well-known business man of Burchard, comes on both sides of an old family. His grandfather Smith was named George, and was a native of Germany, who emigrated to this country at an early age, and was a farmer in Virginia during the War of 1812. He enlisted in the American Army, and was four times wounded, afterward dying from the effects of his wounds, at the age of sixty years. His maternal grandfather, Bradley Squire, was born in Rutland County, Vt., and was there engaged in farming until 1812, when he removed to Coshocton County, Ohio, where he was one of the early settlers. There he cleared up a farm in the wilderness, and before his death had become possessor of

two fine farms. For many years he was Justice of the Peace, and he died in 1858, at the age of eighty years. The father of our subject, Newman Smith, was born in Virginia, and was there reared to manhood. He received a fair education and learned the trade of shoemaker. While still a young man, he removed to Coshocton County, Ohio, and there was engaged in farming, and contracted his first marriage. He owned a small farm, but lost it by becoming security for others. He overcame this misfortune, however, and secured some other property, on which he had a sawmill and gristmill, and there he was profitably engaged in milling, sawing lumber, etc., until a flood washed his dam out, and he traded his mill for town property, and again engaged in shoemaking. He died of consumption in 1864, aged sixty-six years. His second wife, the mother of our subject, was Hester Squire, a native of Rutland County, Vt. She is now living in Roscoe County, Ohio, with one of her daughters, and is eighty-four years old. By his first union Mr. Smith was the father of five children: Charles is living in California; Charlotte in Ohio; Alexander, Sarah and an infant are deceased. By his second union he became the father of seven children, of whom three, Mary, Jane and Joseph N., are living; Perry, Margaret, Hester and Albert are deceased. Perry entered the army in an Indiana regiment and died at New Orleans; Albert was a member of the 132d Ohio Infantry, and died at Bowling Green, Ky.

Joseph N. Smith, the subject of this sketch, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, Jan. 2, 1847. He was reared on his father's farm, and lived at home until eighteen years old, when he began working out by the month. After his father's death he went to work near Roscoe, Ohio, where he remained until his marriage in 1866. He then bought a small farm and remained upon it until he came to Nebraska. He first located in West Branch Precinct, where he bought eighty acres of improved land. This he sold in 1883, buying 136 acres in the same precinct, on which he has made many valuable improvements. It was well suited for his purpose, being watered by the West Branch Creek. He raised some fine grade cattle, and also dealt in blooded horses, particularly Hambletonians.

In the spring of 1888 Mr. Smith sold his farm

and bought one-half interest in the hardware business in Burchard which is now carried on under the name of Smith & Starkey. Since his advent into the firm they have added very largely to their stock, and their business has doubled within a year, being now the largest in the city.

May 3, 1866, our subject was united in marriage near Roscoe, Ohio, to Miss Mary M. Eckles, a native of that place. Ten children have come to bless their union: William R., Carrie E., Mary S., Perry A., James E., Newton J., Edith E., Nellie F., John W. and Charles. The children are all at home with their parents, the family circle being yet unbroken. The eldest daughter, Carrie, is a school teacher. Mr. Smith has been a member of the School Board and Supervisor of the precinct, is a member of and Class-Leader in the Methodist Episcopal Church at Violet, and in politics is neutral.

**W**ILLIAM SCOTT. Prominent among the extensive agriculturists of Pawnee County stands the gentleman whose name we have the pleasure of placing at the head of this brief personal sketch. He is an honorable, honest, enterprising man, and one of the most universally respected citizens of West Branch Precinct, where he has resided for the last thirty years, he having been an early pioneer of this place and county. He is a native of Scotland, born in Roxburghshire, parish of Morbatte, July 12, 1812. His parents, Andrew and Betty (Jerdon) Scott, spent their entire lives in Scotland. His father, who worked as teamster for a gentleman, and also owned and managed a farm, died in 1873, and his mother in 1872. They were the parents of nine children, namely: Andrew, deceased; William, Adam; John, deceased; Thomas; James, deceased; Richard, Melvay and Margaret.

The subject of this sketch grew to manhood on his father's farm, and while a boy assisted in the farm labors. He attended a pay school, and being a diligent and studious lad, he acquired a good education. Inheriting the characteristics of his thrifty Scotch progenitors, our subject when young was ambitious to earn a good livelihood



and save some money for his future years. With that end in view he worked at anything he could find to do, and at one time we find him employed by a gentleman as steward, at another acting in the capacity of a hostler, and again working by the day. In that manner he passed many years of his life, but finding that in spite of his industry and frugality he was not getting sufficient returns for his labor, he determined to emigrate to the United States, and in March, 1858, accompanied by his family, he set sail from Liverpool in the vessel "Albert Gallatin" for the land of hope. After a rough voyage of six weeks, during which he was very sea-sick, he landed in New York, and proceeded directly to Chicago, going thence to Kewanee, Ill. Remaining there but three weeks, Mr. Scott commenced his journey to this State, coming the entire distance with a yoke of oxen, and being six weeks on the way. On arriving here he located in West Branch Precinct, and taking up eighty acres of wild land began to build a home for himself and family. He was the first settler in the precinct, there having been at that time not a house between Pawnee and Marysville, and Mr. Scott has watched with satisfaction the steady growth and progress of this community from its original condition, inhabited only by wild beasts and native Indians, to a populous township, with splendid farms, good schools, churches, and all other marks of advanced civilization, and he takes pride in having been partly instrumental in bringing about this wonderful change. Immediately after coming here our subject began the improvement of his farm, breaking the land with oxen, and setting out forest trees, an orchard, and putting up necessary buildings. In all of his undertakings he has met with assured success, and to his original acreage he has since been enabled, with the assistance of his sons, to add more land from time to time, so that now they together own and operate a farm of 960 acres, one of the largest in the vicinity, all of which is well watered and fenced. Mr. Scott has a substantial set of farm buildings on his place, a large and convenient house, the lumber for which he had to draw from Atchison and Brownville. He and his sons raise all the cereals common to the State, harvesting annually large crops of corn and

oats, and besides have ninety acres of their land, used as pasture, seeded with timothy and clover. They raise a great deal of stock, having a herd of 175 Durhams; their hogs, about 100 in number, are of the famous Poland-China breed, and their horses are among the best in the county, they being the owners of fifteen head which are three-fourths Clydesdale.

The subject of our sketch was married in his native shire, in Hobkirk Parish, April 13, 1838, to Miss Mary Oliver, who was born in that parish in 1814. Of this union two children were born during their residence in Scotland, Andrew and William. The latter lives with his father and carries on the home farm. The former, who is also a farmer in West Branch Precinct, served in the late Civil War. He enlisted in the fall of 1863 in Company E, 2d Nebraska Cavalry, which was sent along the frontier to fight the Sioux Indians, with whom they had an engagement at White Stone Mountain. In the spring of 1865, the term of enlistment having expired, his regiment was mustered out at Brownville.

Mr. Scott takes an intelligent and earnest interest in public affairs, and generously contributes to every worthy enterprise that will in any way benefit his precinct. For a number of years he has served on the School Board, was Supervisor of Roads two years, and has also served as Judge of Elections, and on the Jury. Religiously, he and his family are worthy members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics he votes the straight Republican ticket.

**B**ARR BROS. (J. D. and Joseph) are among the most successful of the enterprising and intelligent young farmers of Pawnee County, and they operate the greatest area of land and are among the heaviest stock-feeders in Mission Creek Precinct, if not in the western part of Pawnee County. They own 320 acres of land, the home farm of 160 acres lying on section 30, and 160 acres in Gage County, on section 24, Liberty Precinct; and in addition to this they rent 320 acres of the Bookwalter land.

Our subjects were born near Hanover, Jo Daviess

Co., Ill., J. D. April 16, 1859, and Joseph March 16, 1861. They are the sons of Robert and Elizabeth (Williamson) Barr. For parental history see sketch of their brother, William Barr, which appears on another page of this book. Their father died when they were infants, but their mother bravely shouldered the support of her children and kept the family together. They were educated in the public schools of their native county, and when old enough formed a copartnership with their mother and carried on the old homestead. In 1879 they sold the Illinois farm, desiring to avail themselves of the many advantages of climate and soil in the younger State of Nebraska. They came by rail to Table Rock, this county, and the first year engaged in farming near Pawnee City. In the summer of 1879 they bought their present homestead in Mission Creek Precinct, and ever since then have been residents of this place. Their land was entirely raw, and they immediately set about its improvement, broke the soil to prepare it for cultivation, built a house for their shelter, set out an orchard and forest trees, devoting some five acres to a grove that much enhances the beauty of the landscape, fenced the land in hedge and wire, and otherwise greatly increased the value of their place. They have met with extraordinary success in their venture, and as their finances increased have added to their land by further purchase, and now have one of the best improved and most valuable farms in the locality. They have erected a very commodious and conveniently arranged residence, with large barns and other farm buildings in accordance, and have a well of never-failing water, with windmill, tanks, etc., and have a good supply of farming machinery to facilitate farming operations. Their Gage County land, which they purchased partly improved in 1883, has also a very large house on it and other buildings. Their farm is well watered by Mission Creek, which just cuts off one corner. The size of their farm was not large enough, however, for these ambitious and energetic young agriculturists, as they wished to carry on farming and stock-raising still more extensively, so they rented 320 acres of the Bookwalter land, and are successfully managing 640 acres of land. Their hobby is feeding cattle, buying the most that they

handle, which averages 200 a year. They raise graded horses, some fifteen to twenty head, and use five teams to operate the farm. They raise some 150 hogs each year, for which they find good markets. They handle their extensive and varied interests with consummate skill, and if they continue to be as successful as heretofore they will undoubtedly be numbered among the wealthy men of Pawnee County at no distant day.

Our subjects are fine representatives of the vigorous, wide-awake young Americans who are materially promoting the highest interests of Nebraska. Mission Creek, where they make their home, finds in them two of her most influential and popular citizens, of high standing in social and business circles. They are young men of unexceptional habits, and are valued members of the United Presbyterian Church of Mission Creek, and also of the Y. M. C. A. J. D. is Superintendent of the Sunday-school connected with his church. They are both strong Republicans. J. D. is at present serving his second term as Assessor of the precinct, and he is also School Director.



**RUSSELL H. SAMSON.** As a fine representative of the influential, well-educated, and universally esteemed pioneers of Pawnee County, no one is more worthy of a commendatory notice than the gentleman whose name we have placed at the head of this sketch. Coming to Sheridan Precinct, where he has since lived, in 1856, he has been prominently identified with its growth and progress, and has well performed his share in placing it on a substantial basis.

Our subject is a native of Pennsylvania, born Feb. 25, 1832, in Wayne County. John W. Samson, father of our subject, was born in Rhode Island in 1806, and being early bereft of a father's care, went to Pennsylvania when quite young and served his time at the carpenter's trade. He subsequently bought a farm in Wayne County, but continued working at his trade on the railway, contracting for trestle work and for houses, being one of the earliest contractors of that county. After retiring from his trade he lived on his farm, though



not actively engaged in its management, until his death. In politics he was a Whig until the formation of the Republican party, when he became a firm supporter of its principles. The maiden name of his wife, mother of our subject, was Mary Ann Hoadly, who was a native of Wayne County, and a daughter of Silas Hoadly. He was a native of Connecticut, who had moved to Wayne County, Pa., when a young man, and there cleared a farm from the wilderness, spending his remaining years on that homestead. Mrs. Samson survived her husband five or six years. She was a most estimable woman and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To her and her husband were born eight children, all of whom grew to maturity and were the comfort of their parents in their declining years.

Our subject received a practical education in his native county that well fitted him for the teacher's profession, which he followed for some years. He subsequently worked for eleven years for the Delaware & Hudson Canal Company, commencing in a subordinate position as the driver of one horse, and being rapidly promoted until he became an overseer, having charge of two miles of gravitation road, with nine men under him. The position was a dangerous one, and our subject finally gave it up to come West, preferring to try farming in the new lands just being opened for settlement. Accordingly, in August, 1856, he visited Nebraska for the purpose of selecting suitable lands for agricultural purposes. Being much pleased with the location and climate of Sheridan Precinct, our subject preempted 160 acres of raw land here, and after making some improvements went east for his family. Returning with them, he came up the river on the boat to Brownville, and from there drove to Sheridan, and since that time he has been a permanent resident of this precinct, living at first like all of the early pioneers, in a log house, which was here when he settled. The county was then very sparsely inhabited, there being but few families in his neighborhood. Mr. Samson at once became an important factor in building up the industrial and educational interests of Sheridan, and after assisting in organizing School District No. 34 served as one of its officers, the larger part of the time for many

years having been Moderator and School Director. The first school in the district was held in a private house, the parents hiring a Mrs. Ball to teach the first two terms. They then built a frame school-house one-half mile east of the crossing of the Nemaha, and just north of the precinct line. The school commenced with ten pupils, but the number has since increased until there are now sixty children of school age in the district, and the school has an enrollment of thirty-eight regular attendants. Soon after arriving he exchanged his pre-emption claim for a part of the land which he now occupies, and to that, as his finances would allow, has added more, until now he has a farm of 240 acres, with good improvements, ninety acres being on the upland, with fifteen acres of fine timber, and the remainder lying in the valley. He has an excellent bearing orchard, a good hedge along the roadside and his farm well fenced. His forest trees he set out himself, having besides put out many evergreens, which from some unknown cause have died. Our subject is especially interested in stock-raising, having a fine herd of cattle, comprising seventy-nine head, with a thoroughbred Short-horn bull at the head, and also keeps 100 hogs.

In 1860 Mr. Samson built his present residence, a substantial stone house, the first one of that material in the county, which will stand for many years as a testimony to his energetic industry. The lumber for one of the chamber floors he brought from the Rocky Mountains, drawing it on a return trip from carrying freight to Denver. When our subject first came here ready money was a scarce article, and people were willing to work hard for a small amount of it, and he used to haul his corn from 150 to 300 miles to ranches or cities on the plains. He made one trip of 200 miles with two yokes of cattle and one wagon, taking provisions from home for the round trip, and cleared \$8 by his journey. One summer he drew his corn to Denver, driving six yokes of oxen ahead of two wagons that were fastened together, being encouraged to undertake the trip from the fact that the year before corn had sold there for \$15 a hundred pounds, but he was not repaid, as he received but \$4.75 per 100 pounds for his load. Mr. Samson's farm compares favorably with any in the county,

being one of the richest and most productive, and he has had opportunities to sell it at a large figure, but has steadily refused all offers. This is his home and here he has passed through many troublous times and many equally pleasant ones. During the grasshopper raid, when many faint-hearted people were discouraged and left the country, Mr. Samson remained and got along all right, his greatest trouble having been to obtain sufficient help, that having been scarce, even though the wages he offered was \$2 a day. With wheat at fifty cents a bushel that remuneration was sufficient to keep every family from want in spite of the depredations of the grasshoppers.

Mr. Samson has a good general knowledge of the early pioneer history of this State, and relates many interesting things concerning it. Although the settlement of Nebraska was conducted quietly, without the sanguinary conflicts that disturbed the colonization of Kansas at the same time, yet there were seasons of great excitement connected with the troublesome question of slavery. An "underground railway" for the use of escaping slaves passed through this precinct, running from Missouri to Canada, with the station at the house of Charles Giddings, Presiding Elder of the Methodist Church. He assisted many slaves from one station to another, and one lot was very nearly captured in this precinct. Mr. Samson is a man of probity, truth and honor, and has to the fullest extent the confidence of his fellow-citizens. In politics he is a stanch Republican, and cast his first Presidential vote for John C. Fremont.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Emeline M. Woodard was solemnized April 2, 1856. She was born in Wayne County, Pa., Nov. 26, 1838, and lived there, a member of the parental household, until her marriage. Her grandfather, John Woodward, was a descendant of the Puritans, born in Connecticut, moving from there to Pennsylvania, where he spent his last years. Asher Woodward, her father, was a native of the same county as herself, born in 1801, and carried on the business of a farmer in Pennsylvania until eight years prior to his decease, when he removed to Sandwich, Ill., where he died in 1860. He married Miss Matilda

Kennedy, a native of Mt. Pleasant, Pa., and to them were born ten children.

The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed by the birth of ten children, nine of whom are still living, the following being their record: Emery R., born Jan. 15, 1857; Jessie, Feb. 24, 1859; Myra A., Jan. 30, 1861; Eva A., Dec. 15, 1863; Willard W., March 6, 1865; Carrie L., June 11, 1868; May A., Oct. 26, 1871; Robert R., Aug. 20, 1874; Nellie G., April 16, 1876; Clyde E., May 24, 1881. Robert died when an infant. Emery, who lives in Kingman County, Kan., married Mollie Donahue, and they have three children—Florence, Raymond and Shirley. Jessie married H. Dwight Tinker, of Humboldt, and they have three children—Eliza D., Cleora P. and Ralph. Eva is the wife of George S. Griffin, of Weeping Water, and they have two children—John and May.

**M**RS. MARGARET E. BLACKLAW, a diligent and accomplished business woman, lives in Table Rock Precinct, where she owns a valuable farm, lying mostly on section 34. She is of Irish ancestry, born in New Ross, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia, April 15, 1838. Her father, Thomas Quinlan, was born in Ireland, and lived there until he attained manhood, when he emigrated to this country. He subsequently married Miss Elizabeth Broom, who bore him seven children, five of whom are yet living, one son in Washington Territory, one son in Missouri, and Mrs. Mary E. Harbison in Kansas; Thomas Quinlan lives in Paradise, Nova Scotia, and our subject. In 1856 Mr. Quinlan came with his family to Nebraska, and locating on the Big Muddy, in Richardson County, pre-empted 160 acres, on which he settled. He lived but a few months afterward, however, his death occurring in 1857. Mrs. Quinlan carried on the farm with the assistance of her children, and continued its improvement until her death, ten years later, when it was sold.

The subject of our sketch was eighteen years of age when she came with her parents to Richardson County, and after her father's death she remained



on the homestead, assisting her mother, and receiving a practical education in the duties and management of a farm, which has well fitted her for her present position. On the 1st of January, 1861, our subject became the wife of Mr. John Blacklaw, her marriage having taken place in Richardson County, where they lived the subsequent two years. From 1863 to 1865 Mr. and Mrs. Blacklaw lived in Pawnee County, and then returned to Richardson County, where they lived another year, going from there to Nemaha County. In 1868, desiring to permanently establish themselves, they again came to this county, and bought the present homestead. It was partly improved and had a mill on it, and a commodious house, which was at that time considered the finest in the county. It has a stone basement, with an upright frame of Gothic architecture, and was an imposing edifice for those days, and a very convenient, substantial house now. The Table Rock mill on the farm had then a large trade, and Mr. Blacklaw carried on milling in connection with his farming. He was a man of much energy and versatility, and met with good success in his enterprises. He was one of the first extensive raisers of stock in the county, keeping over 100 head of each, cattle, horses and hogs, all of a good grade. He invested a part of his capital in the mercantile business, and had an interest in the first drug-store opened in Table Rock, he having furnished the money and Mr. Burns operating the store. Mr. Blacklaw was a man of good business ability, an excellent financier, and was widely known as one of the wealthy men of the town. He was one of the first Commissioners appointed in this county, and held the position nine years. He was a native of England, born in 1829, and lived in his native country until a young man, when he came to the United States and settled first in Ohio, and then in Illinois, living for a time in Springfield. Then, desiring to prospect a little in the more Western States, came to Nebraska, and lived here, as before mentioned, until his death, Sept. 8, 1882. He was at one time a member of the Episcopal Church, in which faith he was reared.

After the death of her husband our subject operated the mill for a short time, and still manages

her farm with the assistance of her children, of whom five of the seven born to her are still living, namely: Mary J., Anna E., James Q., John B. and Thomas William. All are receiving the advantages of the excellent school system of Pawnee County, and are being well trained in the practical duties of life. Mrs. Blacklaw is a most estimable woman, courteous and genial, and in every way worthy of the high consideration in which she is held by the entire community. She is a sincere Christian and one of the original members of the Catholic Church, which she assisted in building, and helps to support.



**C**HARLES SEIP. The southwest quarter of section 25, Mission Creek Precinct, has been developed by our subject into as good a farm as is to be found in this part of Pawnee County. When it first came into his possession ten years ago there were scarcely any improvements on it, but by constant and patient labor he now has it under admirable tillage. It is partly fenced, and is provided with an excellent set of farm buildings, including a comfortable, roomy house, barns, etc. Four acres are in thrifty groves, and there is a large orchard of eight acres on the place. Mr. Seip has his farm well stocked with graded cattle and hogs, and has fourteen head of good horses, using three teams in his farm work.

The subject of this sketch was born Jan. 28, 1841, in Emaus, Lehigh Co., Pa., to William and Catherine (Knaus) Seip. His parents were both born in the same year, 1807, and the father of German antecedents, but while the father was born in the Fatherland, in Darmstadt, the mother was of American birth, Lehigh County, Pa., being her birthplace. Her father, John Knaus, was likewise a native of that county. He was a well-to-do farmer, and a lifelong resident of Pennsylvania. The father of our subject grew to manhood in the land of his birth, and there learned the trade of weaver. At the age of twenty-two he left his old home and associates in Germany, and migrating to America in 1829, located in Lehigh County, Pa. He began weaving there, also worked at mining, was frugal and industrious, and saved money, which he in-

vested in city property. In 1849 he moved to Venango County, the same State, and operated a well drill very profitably for a number of years. In 1873 death closed his useful and honorable career, in Richland Township, Venango Co., Pa. His wife also died in Pennsylvania, surviving her husband until 1882. They were people of great merit, and were justly held in high consideration by all who knew them. They were active members of the German Evangelical Church. Nine children blessed their wedded life, namely: William and Anna, both deceased; Mary, Charles, James, Henry; Amelia Maria, deceased; James enlisted in the Union Army in 1861, from Venango County, Pa., and served through the entire war, and was slightly wounded in the shoulder at Lookout Mountain. Henry was in the same regiment as our subject, enlisting in 1864, and serving until the close of the war.

The subject of this sketch received the basis of his education in a German school in his native county. He was a young lad when his parents moved to Venango County, and there he attended the public schools. He remained at home until he was past twenty-three years of age, and he then shouldered arms and went forth to aid in fighting his country's battles on Southern battle-fields, enlisting in February, 1864, in Company M, 5th Pennsylvania Cavalry, in the Army of the James, under the command of Gen. Kantz. He was mustered in at Camp Copeland. He took part in different raids, and in the Wilson raid his regiment was cut up pretty badly. Our subject was present at the engagement on Johnson's farm, and also did active service in the battle of Appomattox Court House and at Petersburg. He was at Richmond at the time of Lee's surrender, and in August, 1865, he was mustered out in that city, and at Philadelphia received his discharge and payment, he having served eighteen months with the valor and efficiency of a veteran.

At the close of his exciting military experience our subject resumed the quiet life of a farmer in his old home in Venango County, Pa. He was there married, in Richland Township, Jan. 1, 1867, Miss Katie King, a native of that place, becoming his wife. Of this happy marriage eight children

have been born: Alta M., Lizzie C., Harvey K., Homer A., Elmer C., Blanche I., Ida M. and Iva M. (twins), the latter of whom is dead. The others are at home, and are receiving good educational advantages. Mrs. Seip was born in August, 1845, to Adam and Elizabeth (Aungust) King. This lady departed this life April 4, 1884.

After marriage Mr. Seip rented land in Venango County, and carried on agriculture there for two years. He then removed to his father-in-law's place, where he farmed for eleven years, until 1880. In that year he removed by rail to Pawnee County, Neb., he having been here the previous year, and being so impressed with the beauty of the country, the fine climate, the lay of the land, the exceeding fertility of the soil, and the various other advantages offered to an enterprising farmer, that he had purchased his present 160-acre tract of land in Mission Creek Precinct, with a view of making his future home here. He now located on it, and has since made all the improvements mentioned in the opening paragraph of this sketch.

Mr. Seip is a man of sound practical wisdom, with logical and sensible views on all subjects of general interest, in which he is well informed, and no man, for his moral worth and rectitude of character, stands higher in the estimation of the citizens of this community. He and his good wife were connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church, of Marshall County, Kan., among its most active workers, he serving as Steward, and in the Sunday-school is also prominent. In him the Republican party finds an honest supporter. He is a valued member of the local School Board, this being his third year as School Director.

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JAMES TILLOTSON is a member of the firm of Sutton & Tillotson, proprietors of a hardware store in Table Rock, a brick building on the corner of Luzerne avenue and Public Square, which carries the largest and best assorted stock in that line, and is, in fact, the most extensive establishment of the kind in Pawnee County. Mr. Tillotson has full charge of the trade, and manages it in a thoroughly business-



like and methodical manner, so as to secure good profits.

Our subject was born in Walworth County, Wis., Sept. 10, 1858, and is a son of Joseph Tillotson, a native of London, England. His father was married in his native land to Hannah Hinds, and to them were born five children, three of whom are now living—our subject, John and George. The parents of our subject came to America in early life and settled in Walworth County, Wis., where Mr. Tillotson was actively engaged in farming for some years. He subsequently moved to Waukesha County, in the same State, and lived there until after the death of his estimable wife, and then broke up his home, and has since resided in various places, spending much of his time in traveling, and is now residing at Mansville, Wis.

James Tillotson was six years old when his parents moved to Oconomowoc, Waukesha Co., Wis., and he there obtained a substantial foundation for a solid education in the High School. In 1874 he moved to York, Neb., and received a good course of instruction in the academy there, and also learned his trade of tinner in that city with J. H. Woolman, being with him three and a half years, and he now carries on his trade in connection with the hardware business. From York he went to Atchison, Kan., and worked at his trade there and in other places for several years. He finally came here in 1882, and worked as a tinner in this store for about three years, and then was taken into partnership in this the first hardware store ever established in this part of the county. Mr. Tillotson, although a young man, has already built up a good home for himself and family, and has gained a comfortable competence, every dollar of which is the result of his own labor, combined with shrewd management of his finances.

Mr. Tillotson was married, Aug. 6, 1882, to Miss Nettie Briggs, and to them have been born two sons, Herman Ralph and J. Edwin, both of whom will be given every advantage afforded by good education. Mrs. Tillotson was born in Walworth County, Wis., and is a daughter of Adam Briggs, a native of Pennsylvania. They moved to Wisconsin, and there Mr. Briggs was engaged in farming,

and there they were married. They reared a family of ten children in that State, and there died. Mrs. Tillotson came to Pawnee County with her brother Edwin in 1880. He now lives at Valley City, Dak.

Mr. Tillotson is well and favorably known as a man of strict business integrity, and his credit stands high in financial circles. He is genial and helpful toward those about him, and he and his amiable wife are favorites in the society of the place. They are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and do all that lies in their power to promote the moral and material advancement of the community. Mr. Tillotson favors the Republican party, taking an intelligent interest in politics, although not an active partisan.



REV. DR. MARION MORRISON. The United Presbyterian Church of Mission Creek has been presided over in a most worthy manner by the subject of this sketch since 1878, and he is considered one of the ablest men of this denomination in the West. He was connected with the well-known Monmouth College in Warren County, Ill., during its infancy, and was largely instrumental in its subsequent success. He is an eloquent speaker, forcible in argument, and as a pastor faithful and conscientious, making among his people his warmest and most faithful friends.

Dr. Morrison was born in Adams County, Ohio, June 2, 1821, and was reared a farmer's boy, attending the district school, and remaining under the parental roof until twenty years of age. In the spring of 1841 he became a student in the college at Ripley, Ohio, where he studied one and one-half years, then entered Miami University, taking the full classical course, and being graduated with honors in 1846. Soon afterward he entered upon the study of theology at Oxford, remaining there four years. He was licensed to preach the Gospel in 1849, and assumed charge of his first pastorate, the United Presbyterian Church at Tranquility, Adams County, over which he presided six years. In 1856 he was elected Professor of Mathematics

and Natural Philosophy, and held these chairs in Monmouth College seven and one-half years, and until resigning his position. Afterward for six months he operated as a financial agent to secure endowments, and has since that time been connected more or less with the religious papers published in the interest of the church.

During the progress of the late war Dr. Morrison enlisted as Chaplain in the 9th Illinois Infantry, receiving his commission from Gov. Yates, and journeyed with the regiment to the South, remaining with it until the 28th of July, 1864. He was mustered out at Springfield, Ill., and received his honorable discharge. He returned to Monmouth greatly broken down in health, remained there one year, and in June, 1866, took charge of the United Presbyterian congregation at Lacon, Marshall Co., Ill., where he remained until December, 1870. Thence he removed to College Springs, Page Co., Iowa, and remained at that place until the year 1878, and was engaged in general missionary work. In the spring of that year he was called to his present charge in Mission Creek. He found a feeble society of six members, and such has been the success with which he has labored that three congregations have since been organized from it. He is General Superintendent of Missions in this State, and his time is constantly employed in the Master's work.

Dr. Morrison was married in Preble County, Ohio, April 30, 1850, to Miss E. S. Brown, daughter of Dr. George R. and Elizabeth (Presley) Brown, the former of whom was born on the Atlantic Ocean, while his parents were coming from Ireland to America. The mother was a native of South Carolina, born in the Abbeville District. Grandfather Brown, a native of Ireland, upon his emigration to America settled in North Carolina, where he followed farming the remainder of his life. Dr. Brown was educated at Abbeville, and after completing his studies took up his abode in Preble County, Ohio, where he established a lucrative practice, and followed his profession until failing health compelled him to retire. He spent his last days at a farm in Preble County, Ohio, surrounded by all the comforts of life, and died on the 21st of June, 1845, when seventy-one years old.

The mother survived her husband a period of eleven years, dying in 1856, aged sixty-five. Both were members of the United Presbyterian Church. Their family consisted of nine children, namely: George, Jane, Grisella, Sarah, Mary, Elizabeth, Nancy, David and Nathan. But three of these are living. Nancy is a resident of Jamestown, Kan., and Nathan lives at Pawnee City.

Mrs. Morrison was born Aug. 25, 1823, near Oxford, in Preble County, Ohio, and was educated in the Female College at Granville. Of her union with our subject there are three children—William P., George W. and Mary E. William taught school for a time, but is now farming in Page County, Iowa; he has a wife and family of three children. George was graduated from Monmouth College, and subsequently pursued his theological studies in Xenia, Ohio. Later he was appointed a missionary to India, of which country he is now a resident. Mary E. is at home with her parents. Mr. Morrison, politically, is an earnest Republican.

The father of our subject was Hon. Robert Morrison, a native of County Antrim, Ireland, and born in November, 1782. He came to America in his youth, and was married in Ohio, to Miss Phebe McGowan, a native of Butler County, Pa. The paternal grandfather, George Morrison, was also born in Ireland, learned the trade of weaver, and spent his entire life upon his native soil. He married Miss Nancy Scroggs, who later came to America, and died in Adams County, Ohio, at the advanced age of ninety-nine years.

The father of our subject upon first coming to America located in Kentucky, but only sojourned there a short time, removing thence to Adams County, Ohio, where he purchased 150 acres of land. He participated in the War of 1812, and was given a Captain's commission under Gen. Harrison. He did brave service as a soldier until the close of the conflict, and returning to Adams County, Ohio, became a man of means and prominence. He was identified with political affairs, and for a period of thirty-three years served as Associate Judge. He was elected to the Ohio Legislature, of which he was a member two terms, and introduced many sensible measures adopted by that body. He was a member of the Ohio militia as a Brigadier







L. W. Rogers



General. He rested from his earthly labors in 1863. The mother survived her husband two years, dying in 1865, at the age of seventy-five. Robert Morrison was also identified with the United Presbyterian Church, in which he was an Elder a period of forty-five years.



**L**EWIS MARSH ROGERS. The property comprising the Rogers estate is considered as among the most valuable in Pawnee County. The home farm is a finely cultivated tract of land with a commodious frame dwelling, a large stone barn, and first-class improvements generally. It is at once recognized as the result of industry and perseverance, with the supervision of a mind more than ordinarily intelligent. He who first labored in the subduing of the soil, and later superintended its operations, is now no more, but he has left a monument more enduring than brass, the record of an upright life, fruitful with kindly deeds and honest purposes.

The subject of this record was born in Tennessee, April 11, 1837, and was the son of Hon. P. M. Rogers, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. His early life was spent amid the peaceful pursuits of agriculture, and his studies were conducted in the common school. When a young man twenty years of age he came with the balance of the family to Nebraska Territory, they locating on a tract of land in Clay Precinct, which is now occupied by Robert Scott, a son-in-law, who is also written of on another page.

When past twenty-four years of age Mr. Rogers formed matrimonial ties, being wedded to Miss Mary E., daughter of Francis and Dulcena (Rice) Burg, Sept. 19, 1861. Mrs. Rogers was born in Shelby County, Ind., March 14, 1842. The young people soon afterward commenced housekeeping in a modest dwelling upon the land now occupied by the widow and her children. After they had spent twenty years together Mr. Rogers was called to his long home, Dec. 3, 1881, greatly mourned by his family and by all who knew him. He was a man possessing a well-poised mind, combining executive and constructive ability in a marked degree. His emi-

nent fitness for positions of trust and responsibility was recognized by his townsmen at an early day, and after discharging the duties of the various local offices he was made a County Commissioner, the duties of which position he discharged with credit to himself and satisfaction to all concerned.

Mr. Rogers was particularly interested in bringing the educational system of his adopted State to a high standing, and labored strenuously for the measures which would guarantee enlightenment to all. A Republican in politics, he fearlessly advocated the principles of his party, of which he was a leader in many local contests. He not only advocated patriotism, but made practical application of his principles during the progress of the Civil War, enlisting as a private soldier in Company H, 2d Nebraska Cavalry, and serving nine months, being promoted to Sergeant. He was honorably discharged Dec. 23, 1863.

Remarkably successful in business affairs, Mr. Rogers left at his death 592 acres of valuable land thoroughly improved, thus insuring his family against want. To him and his estimable wife there were born eight children, namely: Francis M., William S., Mary A., George H., Sarah K., Dulcena A., Charles L. and Edward C. As a husband and father Mr. Rogers presented a model to the world. He was kind, devoted and affectionate, and looked up to by the members of his household with that consideration which every father of a family should exert himself to be worthy of.

Mrs. Rogers in former years was a member of the Christian Church, to which she was ardently attached, but of late years has been unable to actively participate in church work, though her zeal in the Master's cause is as earnest now as in the days of her youth. She is a lady possessing admirable traits of character, and is the daughter of Francis H. Burg, who was born in Germany, and accompanied his parents, Francis and Mary Burg, to America in 1832. They settled first in Shelby County, Ind., where the elder Burg died ten years later, in 1843. His widow came to the West in 1870 and settled in this county, making her home with a grandson, where her death took place Feb. 6, 1883, at the advanced age of ninety-four years.

Mr. Burg was married in Shelby County, Ind.,

to Miss Dulcena Rice, a native of Kentucky, and the daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Rice. The latter left the Blue Grass region in 1858, coming to this county and taking up 160 acres of land in Clay Precinct. Mr. Burg died Aug. 14, 1863, while on a freighting expedition to the farther West. He had served as Justice of the Peace in Clay Precinct, and with his excellent wife was a member of the Christian Church. They were the parents of twelve children: Mary E., Mrs. Rogers; William R., John W.; Julia A., the wife of Andrew Scott, of this county; Maggie, Mrs. Robert Inglis, of Clay Precinct; Michael R., Lavina, Cassandra and Alice, the wife of John Blaine. George died at the age of eighteen years, Sarah when three years, and Dora when seven months old.

An admirable portrait of Lewis M. Rogers is shown on another page, and to his many friends will be an attractive feature of this ALBUM.

**J**OHAN MORLEY, an intelligent, industrious and well-to-do farmer of Table Rock Precinct, is one of the early pioneers of Pawnee County, coming here while it was yet young, ere towns were platted, roads laid out, or the county seat adopted. He has been an active, hard-working man, and while laboring for the improvement of his own property, has not been unmindful of the needs of the growing precinct where he located, but has always been identified with all movements looking toward its advancement.

Mr. Morley was born Aug. 31, 1816, in Yorkshire, England, where he was reared and educated. He engaged in farming when a young man, and continued thus occupied in his native country until 1851, when he sought new lands and a new home in the United States. The first five years after coming to this country our subject lived in Pittston, Pa., where he was married to Mrs. Ann Bousfield, a native of England, who had emigrated to the United States when young. She was subsequently married, and by her first husband had three children, all of whom lived with our subject until grown up. Mr. Morley was not quite satisfied with his future prospects in the Keystone

State, and determined to try farming on Western soil. Accordingly in the fall of 1856 he started for Nebraska, coming by rail to St. Louis, thence to Jefferson City, where he took passage on a river boat for his intended destination, but on arriving at Weston the water was so low that the passengers were obliged to abandon the boat, and buying a yoke of cattle to draw the baggage, the entire party had to walk the rest of the way, crossing the river at St. Stephen's. Our subject pre-empted a tract of land north of Table Rock, now owned by J. Purcell, which he partly improved. The following spring he sold out and bought land lying a little south of where he now lives. He labored assiduously, and from the wild prairie eliminated a good farm. It had a fine grove of forest trees, and he set out an orchard which is now bearing, and fenced the farm, and placed 175 acres of it under cultivation. He enlarged the house, put up good out-buildings, granary and stables. In 1877 Mr. Morley disposed of that property and bought his present farm, lying on sections 34 and 35, paying \$5 an acre for it. It was then in its normal state, but with characteristic energy our subject began its improvement. That he has met with good success in his labors is shown by the fine condition of his homestead and its appurtenances. He has erected a commodious frame house, of neat and tasty architecture, possessing all the conveniences of a modern farmhouse, and also a large barn, 20x70 feet, which is planed, battened and painted. In 1879 he put up a windmill which pumps water for use in the house, and also for the stock. Mr. Morley has besides set out a fine grove of forest trees, a good orchard of fruit trees, and plenty of small fruits and shrubbery, rendering his estate one of the most beautiful in the locality. He has taken much interest in stock-raising, and been largely instrumental in bringing up the standard of the stock in his community. He was the first to bring a thoroughbred Short-horn into the vicinity, he having bought it for \$100 when it was a calf, of Mr. Daniels, of Sarpy County. Two years later Mr. Blacklaw brought some Short-horns into the precinct, and our subject subsequently purchased other full-blooded cows and bulls, registered Short-horns, and made a specialty of stock-raising. For his endeavor-



ors to improve the grade of cattle in this community he has the gratitude of all intelligent farmers, who appreciate his efforts in this direction as well as his other labors for the progress and growth of the precinct. In educational matters he has taken an active part, and helped to organize the first school district, but he is of a modest and retiring disposition and has steadily refused all public offices. Mr. Morley has now passed the allotted threescore years and ten of man's natural days, and is preparing to retire from active toil, and with that end in view is disposing of his stock and getting ready to give up agricultural work. For sixty years he has toiled without ceasing, working always for the best interests of his family and community, and now, as old age comes creeping on, he feels justly entitled to a few years of ease and comfort, that he may enjoy the competence that he has accumulated. He is a man of undisputed honesty and integrity in all business transactions, and has the honor and respect of the entire community. He was reared in the faith of the Church of England, but now supports the Methodist Episcopal Church, which he assisted in building and regularly attends. In politics he is a Republican.

**ROBERT H. HAMMOND.** It is nearly thirty years since this honored pioneer of Pawnee County first set foot upon the soil of Nebraska, having come hither in 1857, during its Territorial days. He pre-empted 160 acres of land in Pawnee Precinct, upon which he effected considerable improvement, and then added to his landed estate to the amount of 160 acres on section 4. He now has one of the finest farms in this region, devoted largely to stock-raising, an industry which yields him a handsome income.

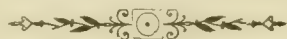
The native place of our subject was in Jefferson County, Ind., and the date of his birth Nov. 1, 1825. His father, Peter Hammond, was born in Maryland, but reared mostly in Pennsylvania, to which State his parents removed when he was quite young. He was reared a farmer's boy, and upon reaching man's estate married Miss Nancy Chambers, a native of Virginia, who was the daughter

of Robert Chambers, who subsequently emigrated to Indiana. He was born in 1800, and died in Jefferson County, Ind., in 1836. His excellent wife survived him a period of forty years, remaining a widow, and passing to her final rest in 1876.

To the parents of our subject there were born five sons and five daughters, six of whom are still living, making their homes mostly in Indiana. Robert H., our subject, was the third in order of birth, and, like his brothers and sisters, received his education in the common schools of Jefferson County, Ind. He remained a member of his father's household until reaching manhood, then commenced farming for himself, and labored thus a period of seven years before taking unto himself a wife and helpmate. He was then married, in 1854, to Miss Martha J., daughter of Joseph and Mary (Snodgrass) Woods, and in 1857 they started overland with wagons upon the long journey to Nebraska. The first few years of their experience on the frontier were similar to that of the pioneers around them, during which they endured many hardships, but patience and endurance met with their legitimate reward, and in due time they had reason to congratulate themselves that they had come hither.

Mr. Hammond commenced operations on a tract of unimproved land, and it is hardly necessary to say that the task of bringing it to its present condition has involved years of labor and the outlay of thousands of dollars. It has proved, however, a solid and safe investment, independent of the fluctuations of trade or business. The union of Mr. and Mrs. Hammond was blessed by the birth of six children, the eldest of whom, Charlotte A., is the wife of Josiah Wilson, of Pawnee City; Joseph A. is prosecuting farming in Kansas; Nancy A. is the wife of John A. Perdew, of Nemaha Precinct; William H., Etta and Guy are at home with their parents. Mr. Hammond, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket. He may be numbered among the self-made men who have risen from a humble position in life to a good standing, socially and financially, among their fellowmen. He comes of excellent stock, people who have almost uniformly been distinguished by their industry, sobriety, and all the qualities of character

which go to make up the model citizen. His paternal grandparents were Jonathan and Martha (Peppers) Hammond, who were of Scotch-English ancestry, and the parents of ten children. The mother of our subject traced her forefathers to England.



**ON. JOSEPH B. PEPOON.** Nebraska, like many other of the Western States, was in the early days an object of attraction to a large proportion of more than ordinarily intelligent men, scions of substantial old families, the record of whose history presents matters of very great interest to the biographer and the student. The family of whom the above-named gentleman is a most worthy representative are sketched on other pages in this work, and have left their indelible impress upon the sands of time. Joseph B., our subject, was one of the earliest pioneers of this county, settling on section 4 in Table Rock Precinct a few months after Nebraska had been admitted into the Union as a State.

The experience of Mr. Pepoon on the frontier was not widely different from that of his neighbors. He took up by homestead claim 160 acres of wild land, from which he constructed one of the most valuable homesteads within the limits of Pawnee County. Upon it, when he took possession, there had not been turned a furrow, neither was there a tree nor a shrub, the whole being covered with a growth of luxuriant prairie grass. The bringing of the soil to a state of cultivation, the planting of fruit and shade trees, the erection of farm buildings, the gathering together of the live stock and machinery, has involved the labor of years and the outlay of thousands of dollars. The proprietor cannot, however, fail to view with much satisfaction the results of his labors, and feel amply repaid for his toils and sacrifices during the first years of his sojourn in this section of country.

The farm of Mr. Pepoon is mostly enclosed by beautiful hedge fencing, of which he planted two and one-half miles. He has a good orchard and trees of the smaller fruits, and has gathered around his family the thousand and one little comforts and conveniences which have so much to do with the

happiness of a home. Upon first coming here he put up a cottonwood house of green wood, and as a natural consequence the boards all warped out of shape. The lumber he bought and hauled from Aspinwall, on the Missouri, and as the timber was green and warped out of shape he re-covered it with pine hauled from Table Rock. There was not then a bridge in the precinct, and Mr. P. assisted in the erection of the first structure of this kind across the Nemaha. He also assisted in the organization of his school district, which was effected in 1868. He was also elected one of the first Directors of the district, and was Chairman of the board which was instrumental in the building of the first school-house at a cost of \$250.

Mr. Pepoon held the above-named office for a period of six years, and has been a member of the board from the first, officiating most of the time as Treasurer. He has also held other positions of trust, was elected County Commissioner by the Republicans in 1873, serving three years, and during which time many improvements were made in the county in the building of bridges, improving the highways, etc. Table Rock Precinct claims that it has more good bridges than any other section in the county, and for this feature in its landscape is largely indebted to Mr. Pepoon. He has ever signalized himself as the friend of the enterprises calculated to build up the county, and thus improve the condition of its people.

In the fall of 1877 our subject was elected State Senator to fill a vacancy. In 1883 he was elected County Surveyor, serving at the time his brother-in-law, Mr. Howe, was County Superintendent of Schools, and had considerable to do with the laying out of roads, which work no one can dispute was well done. On his own premises are the modern improvements of the day, including hay-scales and windmill, with graded Short-horn cattle and excellent breeds of horses and swine. His labors as an agriculturist have assisted in contributing in an equal manner to the reputation of the county.

The surroundings of the early life of Mr. Pepoon no doubt had much to do with the development of a character naturally strong and self-reliant. He was born near the shores of Lake Erie, in Painesville, Ohio, Jan. 5, 1838, and lived there until a



lad of twelve years. He then accompanied his parents to the town of Warren, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., where he completed his education in the academy and developed into a pedagogue, teaching school thereafter three winters. In the spring of 1860 he turned his steps toward the farther West, crossing the plains to Oregon with an ox-team, the journey occupying five months. In this enterprise he was accompanied by E. T. Boone and others, and journeyed by the way of the Platte River, Elkhorn, South Pass, Soda Springs and Humboldt River, crossing the northern part of California and Honey Lake Valley. In the far Northwest he engaged in farming one year and until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. A few months later he enlisted, in November, 1861, in Company A, 1st Oregon Cavalry, and served on the frontier three years. The regiment expected to be sent South to take part in putting down the Rebellion, but the Indians being emboldened by the absence of so many men who had gone to the war, their services were required on the frontier, and the regiment was detailed mostly to meet emigrants and escort them in safety to their destination. They had several fights with the savages, and in the discharge of their duties traveled all over that region of country. Mr. Pepoon with his company was discharged in November, 1864, at Ft. Vancouver, W. T., whence he returned to Oregon, and at Dallas City was engaged as a clerk in a store. The year following, however, he returned to his old home at Warren, Ill., being drawn thither by an attraction impossible to resist.

This attraction to which we have alluded was a most estimable young lady, Miss Elizabeth Shaw, to whom our subject was married April 19, 1866. They sojourned in the Prairie State a few months, then sought their new home in Nebraska, of which they have since been residents. In due time there came to the fireside seven bright-faced children, with three of whom they were called to part at a tender age. The survivors are Elsie, George W., Philip W. and Mabel, who are all at home with their parents and being given a thorough education.

Mrs. Elizabeth (Shaw) Pepoon was born at Nora, Jo Daviess County, Ill., July 4, 1840, and is the daughter of Eneas Shaw, a native of Massachu-

setts and now deceased. He married Miss Sila Phipin, and they became the parents of thirteen children. Mr. Shaw emigrated from his native State to Illinois at an early date and was one of the pioneer settlers of Jo Daviess County. He was a man of fine abilities and great kindness of heart, universally respected by all who knew him. Mrs. Pepoon was a member of the Free-Will Baptist Church, a lady who was a most suitable helpmate for her husband, proving his assistant and encourager in every worthy ambition. She was well educated, having completed her studies in Hillsdale College, Michigan. She died March 7, 1886, and was buried in the lawn of the home she loved so well, by the side of her three children. In the biographies of John W. Shaw and O. D. Howe will be found further details in regard to these families, who wherever they made their residence were numbered among the best elements of the community. In politics Mr. Pepoon has always been a strong Republican.

FRED SAXENBERGER, M. D., one of the most courteous and dignified members of his profession, commands the respect and confidence of all with whom he comes in contact, as well by this as by his skill in connection with his profession. He was born in Dessau, Prussia, in 1840, and received the rudiments of his literary education in the public schools of his native land, where he thoroughly prepared himself for the classical and professional course which followed.

Dr. Saxenberger entered the Leipsic Medical Institute in Saxony, in 1863, taking the full course of study, as prescribed by the Homeopathic and Eclectic Schools of Medicine and Surgery. He was graduated in 1867, receiving from his college a diploma. He also acquired an education in the classics, covering metaphysics, science, philosophy and the arts. He has been a close student all his life, a keen observer of passing events, and has kept himself well abreast of the progress made in the science of medicine.

In 1869 Dr. Saxenberger emigrated to America, landing in the city of Baltimore. Thence he pro-

ceeded to New York City, where he had friends, and subsequently to Omaha, this State, where he began the practice of his profession and was eminently successful. After a residence of six years in that city he changed his abode to Seward, Neb., where he followed his practice a period of seven years. He was subsequently a resident of Waco one year, then removed to Humboldt, where he sojourned two years; was next at Dawson two years, and in May, 1888, established a drug-store at Steinauer, where he has since lived. He possesses a degree of erudition seldom attainable outside the thorough institutions of Germany.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary E., daughter of George and Catharine Wiseman, was celebrated in York County, this State, on the 7th of March, 1884. The three children born to them are all deceased. Mrs. Saxenberger is a very estimable lady, intelligent, and possessing excellent conversational powers. Their home is a model of neatness and comfort. Both the Doctor and his lady are members in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and are numbered among its most active workers. Dr. S. before emigrating to America served in the German Army the allotted time required from the sons of the Fatherland. He has become thoroughly identified with the interests of his adopted country, and especially with those of Pawnee County.



**W**ILLIAM BARR represents the agricultural interests of Pawnee County as an active and prosperous farmer of Mission Creek Precinct, successfully managing his farm, comprising the northeast quarter of section 18, that for fertility and productiveness is unsurpassed by any in its vicinity. Mr. Barr is descended from a sterling Celtic ancestry, from whom he derives those fine traits of character that mark him as a man and as a citizen. His progenitors on both sides of the house were of Irish birth. His maternal grandparents, Arthur and Helen (Goodfellow) Williamson, were reared and married in their native Ireland, and subsequently coming to America with their family located in East Hebron, Washington Co., N. Y., where Mr. Williamson followed agriculture. In

1858 he went to Elizabeth Township, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., to spend his last days with his daughter, and died at her home in 1864, at the age of sixty-five years. His wife, who survived him until 1873, died at the age of sixty-seven, retaining her eyesight in a remarkable degree, so that she never had to wear glasses.

The parents of our subject, Robert and Elizabeth (Williamson) Barr, were natives of Ireland, born respectively in Counties Antrim and Monaghan. The father was the youngest of four sons. He learned the cooper's trade in his native land, and when about twenty-one years of age emigrated to this country, and locating in Glens Falls, Washington Co., N. Y., engaged in coopering in that place for some time. He was married in New York, and continued living there until 1853, when he removed to Jo Daviess County, Ill., and buying forty acres of land in Hanover Township, put up a cooper shop and actively engaged in his calling. His death occurred in that place in 1860, when he was forty-seven years of age. His community thus lost a useful and honored citizen, as in all respects he was an upright man. He took an intelligent interest in the political proceedings of his adopted country, and sided with the Whig party. He left a widow and seven children to mourn their loss, as follows: William; Elizabeth H., now Mrs. Spear, of Illinois; Anna Mary, Mrs. Morton, of Nebraska; Mattie J., Mrs. Wiley, of Nebraska; Sarah M., Mrs. Dick, of Liberty, Neb.; J. D. and Joseph, of whom see sketch on another page. Fortunately for the family so bereft when some of the children were mere infants, the mother was a capable, noble-hearted woman, devoted to her children, and she managed by hard labor to keep them together until they became self-supporting. In 1879 she sold the homestead left by her husband, and accompanied her sons to Nebraska, and died at their home Oct. 26, 1886, at the age of sixty-two years. She was a sincere Christian, and an active member of the United Presbyterian Church.

Our subject was born Aug. 2, 1846, near the town of Salem, Washington Co., N. Y. The early years of his life were passed in the town of Glens Falls, and his education was begun in a public school at East Hebron. He was eight years old when he ac-



accompanied his parents to their new home in Illinois, and after that he assisted on the farm, and made the most of the limited school advantages afforded in those pioneer times. His father died when he was fourteen years of age, and the management of the farm fell in a great measure to him, and he thus early developed manly self-reliance. Besides working on the home farm he occasionally worked out until he was eighteen years of age. While he was thus bearing the burdens of manhood while yet a boy, the great Civil War had been raging, and with patriotic ardor he longed to take part in the strife. His opportunity came when he was eighteen years of age, and in October, 1861, he hastened to embrace it, enlisting in that month in Company F, 96th Illinois Infantry, and was mustered in at Galena as a member of the 2d Brigade, 1st Division, 4th Army Corps, and sent to Camp Baker. After drilling there two months he was dispatched with the rest of his regiment to Nashville, Tenn., by way of Louisville, to join 'Thomas' army. He and his comrades were sent immediately to the front and took part in the engagement at Nashville, having two days' experience of hard fighting and two days of skirmishing.

Our subject's regiment then went into winter quarters at Huntsville, Ala., and remained there until the spring of 1865, when they were ordered to Bull's Gap to guard it until after the fall of Richmond. Subsequent to that event they were sent to Nashville, Tenn., where they camped a month, and our subject was then transferred to the 21st Illinois Infantry, Grant's old regiment, and dispatched to New Orleans. After being in camp there a month the 21st proceeded to Texas to guard the frontier, being stationed at Green Lake, and were encamped on the Guadeloupe River. Mr. Barr was mustered out Oct. 11, 1865, at Victoria, Tex., sent home by the way of New Orleans and Cairo, and paid off at Springfield, having served his country for many months with the heroism and fidelity of the true soldier. While in the army he contracted pleurisy in his left side, which still affects him.

After our subject's retirement from the service he returned to his mother's home, and carried on the old homestead until 1878, when he sold his personal property, and coming to Pawnee County by

rail, located in Pawnee City. He rented a farm adjacent to the city, although there was no road to it, and conducted agriculture thereon for two years. In 1879 he bought his present place, consisting of 160 acres of wild, uncultivated land, and in 1880 moved onto it. He immediately broke the soil, set out groves, and a five-acre orchard of 100 trees; fenced and cross-fenced his land in hedge and wire; put up a conveniently arranged house, good barns, and other necessary buildings, and now has a farm that, in point and value of improvements, compares favorably with any in the precinct. He is successfully engaged in raising and feeding cattle, his herd being finely graded, and in raising hogs and horses, having ten head of the latter, and he also devotes much time to tilling the soil.

October 7, 1880, our subject secured, by his marriage to Miss Nannie Brooks, a devoted wife, who looks well to the ways of her household and looks carefully after the wants of her family. Their pleasant home circle is brightened by the presence of the three children who have been born of their marriage—Elmer S., William J. and Arthur L. Mrs. Barr was born May 18, 1853, near Brighton, Cuyahoga Co., Ohio, and is the daughter of Mathew and Jane (Campbell) Brooks. Her father took part in the War of 1812. He kept a hotel and managed a farm in Beaver, Pa., and became very well-to-do in this world's goods. He subsequently moved to Ohio, where he engaged in farming until his return to Pennsylvania. He settled in Lawrence County, that State, and there rounded out a life of eighty-four years, dying in 1859. He was a war Democrat, and was an influential man in his community, holding the office of Justice of the Peace, besides other civic positions. Mrs. Brooks died in 1845, at the age of thirty-five, leaving three children, as follows: Jane, Mrs. C. Grinner, of Pennsylvania; Martha, Mrs. Slater, of this county. Nannie, Mrs. Barr, was left an orphan when six years old, and after that lived with a half-sister in Beaver Falls, Pa., until she came to Nebraska, in 1879, for her health.

Before he attained man's estate Mr. Barr proved himself a brave and faithful soldier, and in after years he has been a no less loyal and useful citizen. Since becoming a resident of Mission Creek Pre-

cinct he has interested himself in its welfare, and has been especially active in educational matters, and has served on the School Board two terms. In politics he is a straight Republican, and uses his influence to promote the success of his party, and has been a delegate to its conventions. He served on the Petit Jury in Galena. He and his wife are among the most zealous members of the United Presbyterian Church at Mission Creek, of which he has been a Trustee, and the record of their daily lives shows that they are guided by high Christian principles. They are well liked in this community, and have many warm friends among the best people.

EDMUND W. BELL makes his home in Pawnee Precinct, and is a citizen held in high estimation by the people of this section. He was the recent Union Labor candidate for the Legislature. He was born twenty miles from the city of Cleveland, Ohio, on the 7th of May, 1853, the home of his parents being then across the line in Geauga County, east. John C. Bell, the father of our subject, was a native of Massachusetts and a farmer by occupation. His mother was Miss Lydia Sturdevant, a native of Vermont, and born in 1812, being the junior of her husband three years, his birth having taken place in 1809. Her parents removed at an early date to Ohio, and she was married in Geauga County. In 1854 the parents of our subject migrated westward to Ogle County, Ill., where they lived ten years, and in 1864, leaving the Prairie State, came to Nebraska and settled on a farm across the road from that which our subject now occupies in Pawnee Precinct. The father homesteaded a claim, which he proved up, and from it constructed a good farm, which he occupied until his death, which occurred in October, 1880. The mother died Jan. 29, 1889. They were the parents of five children, three sons and two daughters, namely: Freeman; Harriet, the wife of P. B. Horton; John B., Lydia, and Edmund, Jr.

Our subject was a lad of ten years when his parents came to this county, and he prosecuted his education first in the common schools, pursuing his studies in Nemaha Valley Seminary, at Pawnee

City, where he attended five years. Later we find him a student of the State Normal School at Peru, where he spent two years. He subsequently occupied himself for a time as a teacher. His business career opened as a dealer in cattle and horses, and later he turned his attention more exclusively to agricultural pursuits. He, however, had always been inclined to books and newspapers, and now became one of the editors and proprietors of the *Pawnee Banner*, at Pawnee City, with which he was connected one year, and then sold out. Soon afterward he removed to the farm upon which he now lives, and he is making a specialty of Hambletonian horses and thoroughbred Short-horn cattle, having of the former sixteen head, and of the latter usually keeping a herd of twenty.

On the 30th of May, 1883, Mr. Bell was united in marriage with Miss Maggie C. Dunn, of Burlington, Iowa. This lady was born Dec. 25, 1862, in Iowa, and is the adopted daughter of Mr. Dunn. They have one son, Carlisle Ritchie, who was born Nov. 24, 1885. Mr. Bell is a man who keeps himself well posted on matters of general interest, and has given due attention to the leading questions of the day.

WILSON C. STARKEY. Burchard is rapidly advancing to a leading position among the enterprising cities of the West. It has been her good fortune to attract within her borders numbers of enterprising and energetic men, and among them the subject of this memoir occupies no unimportant position. He is at present conducting a lucrative hardware trade, combining with this also the sale of agricultural implements, and numbers among his friends and patrons many of the leading farmers in this part of the State. His career has been notable for uprightness in the transaction of business, while, as a citizen he is liberal and public-spirited, uniformly giving his support to the enterprises tending to build up his community, socially, morally and financially.

The boyhood home of our subject was near the little town of Roscoe, Coshocton Co., Ohio, where



his birth took place Sept. 2, 1846. Until nine years of age he remained at his father's farm, attending the district school, then repairing to town, entered the High School. His hopes and plans in that direction, however, were frustrated by the early death of his mother, and he was then placed among strangers and thrown largely upon his own resources. When a boy of ten he started out for himself, and was employed mostly working upon different farms in his native county until after the outbreak of the Rebellion. On the 22d of July, 1863, before reaching his seventeenth year, he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company M, 9th Ohio Cavalry, which was assigned to the command of Gen. Sherman. He was mustered in at Camp Denison, and shortly afterward the regiment was ordered South, marching through Kentucky and Tennessee into Alabama, and at Decatur joined the army of Gen. Rosseau. There had been considerable skirmishing on the way, but our hero escaped unharmed, although he hurt his foot so seriously while getting over a fence that he was obliged to enter the hospital at Nashville, and was laid up for two months. He recovered, however, in time to participate in the battle which followed at that place, and later joined the army of Gen. Sherman, meeting the enemy at Fayetteville, Bentonville, Salisbury and Hillsboro, N. C. His battalion fired the last round at Johnson's army before the surrender.

Later, our subject, with his comrades, was placed on guard duty around Lexington and other places, and at the close of the war received his honorable discharge. He had engaged in fifteen regular battles besides numerous skirmishes, making a miraculous escape. Upon leaving the service he returned to his home in Ohio, and employed himself upon a farm until his marriage. Leaving Ohio in 1868 he made his way to McLean County, Ill., locating on a farm near Pleasant Hill, and turned his attention largely to stock-raising. In 1870 he went back to Ohio, and changing his occupation somewhat, engaged in coal mining, remaining there until the spring of 1880.

We next find Mr. Starkey on his way to Nebraska, and soon after his arrival in this county he purchased a tract of partially improved land in

West Branch Precinct. He completed the improvements and engaged in farming and stock-raising until 1883, when he concluded to invest a portion of his capital in a stock of hardware, and associated himself with Messrs. Wing and Bell, they operating together under the firm name of Wing, Starkey & Bell. Mr. S. sold out six months later, and changing his occupation materially, purchased the outfit of the *Pawnee Banner*, and conducted this paper two years quite successfully. Upon selling, or taking for it in exchange a drug-store, he soon afterward sold the latter and purchased a farm of 120 acres in Miles Precinct. This was also partially improved, and he occupied it a year, then turned his attention to general merchandising at Violet, associating himself with Mr. Walch, under the firm name of Walch & Starkey. A year later our subject resumed farming, but in the meantime disposed of his mercantile interest to his partner and purchased a farm. He thus had 200 acres, upon which he farmed until the fall of 1887. He then purchased the *News*, which was under his editorial management until Jan. 1, 1888. In March following he became interested in the hardware trade, and established himself in his present business.

The marriage of W. C. Starkey and Miss Frances Carter was celebrated at the bride's home near Roscoe, Ohio, May 5, 1867. Of this union there were seven children: Ida, deceased; Frances; Amelia, who died at the age of one year; Sophia, William, George and Louis. They occupy a pleasant home in Burchard, and Mr. Starkey, notwithstanding his numerous business interests, has always found time to interest himself in the prosperity of his adopted city, serving on the School Board, and occupying other positions of trust. In Ohio he was Assessor and Road Supervisor, and is a man who invariably makes his mark wherever he sojourns. Socially, he belongs to the A. O. U. W. and the G. A. R., both of Pawnee City.

In religious matters Mr. Starkey is identified with the Methodist Episcopal Church at Violet, being one of the charter members and a Trustee. Politically, he is independent, and has often served as a delegate to the County and State Conventions. In Ohio in 1879 he was selected as a candidate of the Greenback party for the State Legislature, and

in Nebraska, in 1884, was made the candidate of the Fusion ticket. This party being in the minority he expected defeat, but he made a good record, and does not consider it anything to his discredit.

The father of our subject was Timothy Starkey, also a native of the Buckeye State, and born near Adamsville, in Muskingum County, in 1820. He married Miss Rebecca Phillips, a native of the same county, who was born in 1823. The paternal grandfather, William Starkey, was a native of Pennsylvania, and learned the trade of tanner. He removed to Ohio at an early date, where he followed his trade in connection with farming for a time, then pushed on further westward into Indiana, where he died in 1856, at the age of sixty years. He was of German descent, while the Phillips family traced their forefathers to England.

Timothy Starkey was reared to man's estate in Ohio, where he was married, and prosecuted farming in Muskingum County during the younger years of his life. Later he became interested in transportation on the Ohio Canal, and became owner of several boats. In 1850 he took up his residence in Roscoe, and operated as superintendent of a sawmill for a period of nine years. Upon abandoning this he engaged in farming in that vicinity, but upon the outbreak of the Civil War volunteered his services as a Union soldier, enlisting in Company D, 80th Ohio Infantry. The regiment was ordered to Tennessee, engaged in skirmishing mostly, and finally went to Georgia, where Mr. Starkey was taken ill, sent to Nashville, Tenn., and finally was obliged to accept his honorable discharge.

The father of our subject, upon retiring from the service, resumed farming near his old place in Ohio, and spent his last days in the vicinity of Roscoe, dying in 1887 at an advanced age. The mother had preceded her husband to the silent land a period of thirty-two years, her death taking place in 1855. Timothy Starkey was a man of good abilities and quite prominent in local affairs, serving as Justice of the Peace and Township Supervisor. He was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, serving as Steward, and was for nine years Superintendent of the Sunday-school. The parental family included five

children, namely: William, who died when about twenty-two; Mary, who died at the age of six; Wilson Cooper, our subject; Elizabeth, making her home in Ohio; and Silas, deceased.

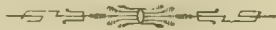
OLIN W. GRIFFING, mason and contractor in brick and stone, is a worthy representative of the industrial element of Table Rock, and one of the substantial and honored citizens of Pawnee County. Coming here with his parents when an infant, ere the country was settled, he has with truth grown up with the town, and been an eye witness of the transformation which has changed it from an unbroken prairie, over which the untutored Indians roamed, to a thriving village, populated by an intelligent and industrious class of people.

Our subject was born in Wayne County, Pa., Oct. 8, 1856, and is a son of the Hon. George L. Griffing, a very early settler of Pawnee County. Olin Griffing received a good common-school education in this precinct, remaining at home until twenty years of age, when he learned the plasterer's trade of his brother Arthur, with whom he is now connected in business. After acquiring a knowledge of his trade our subject bought a farm, and for some years was engaged in agricultural pursuits. He made all of the usual improvements, having fenced his farm, erecting a convenient house and out-buildings, and setting out a good orchard. In the year 1887 Mr. Griffing traded that property for an implement store, which he managed for a year, selling it out in October, 1888. Our subject and his brother Arthur are two of the twelve citizens now living in Table Rock who came here as early as 1857, and since attaining manhood they have done their share toward building up the town. Mr. Griffing is pleasantly located in a residence of his own on Pawnee street, the lot on which it is situated comprising half an acre of ground. Our subject is a public-spirited man, who has readily assumed all the responsibilities resting upon him as one of the practical, capable and energetic business men of the town. For five years he served faithfully as a member of the



School Board of Clear Creek Precinct, District No. 18, where he was Director, and by virtue of his office Chairman of the building committee which had charge of the erection of the school-house. In politics he is a firm Republican; socially, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and both he and his wife are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The marriage of Mr. Griffing with Miss Matilda R. Conklin was solemnized in Table Rock, Sept. 10, 1879. Their union has been blessed by the birth of two children: Winford, born April 16, 1881, and Lawrence W., April 11, 1885. Mr. Conklin, the father of Mrs. Griffing, is a native of Pennsylvania. He married Mrs. Julia Billings, whose maiden name was Bidwell, and settled in his native State, living there until 1879, when he moved with his family to Nebraska and located in Table Rock, where he still lives, successfully engaged in his business as an engineer.



**G**EORGE W. KELLY. Although a resident of this county only since February, 1882, Mr. Kelly has become thoroughly and favorably known as one of its most reliable men. He purchased the land which he now occupies in 1871. There was then upon it a small log house and thirty acres had been broken. It embraces 160 acres, and occupies the northwest quarter of section 4, in Clay Precinct.

Seven years of plodding industry have effected a wonderful change in the condition of the property of Mr. Kelly, and no one would recognize it as the tract of land upon which stood the lonely looking cabin at the time of purchase by him, when the neighbors were few and far between. The whole is enclosed with neat and substantial fencing, and embellished with comfortable frame buildings. There is an apple orchard in good condition with about thirty cherry and other fruit trees. The farm is devoted to general agriculture, but Mr. Kelly rather makes a specialty of grain and stock,

As far back as the records have been preserved we find this branch of the Kelly family established first in Maryland. Joseph, Sr. and Jr., were the

father and paternal grandfather of our subject, and both were natives of Maryland. Grandfather Kelly emigrated with his family to Ohio, settling in Perry County, where Joseph, Jr., married Miss Rebecca, daughter of Ephraim Tipton. Of this union there were born eight children: William H.; Mary J., now Mrs. John Forbes, of Illinois; Elizabeth, who married J. R. Iliff, and is now deceased; George W., our subject; Margaret L., Mrs. Charles Spangler; Joseph E., and two who died in infancy. Grandfather Kelly spent his last years in Illinois.

When our subject was a little lad of seven years his parents removed to Tazewell County, Ill., where he was reared to man's estate and acquired his education in the common school. His marriage took place in Logan County, that State, Feb. 18, 1875, with Miss Anna M., daughter of Aquilla and Adelia (Woland) Breech. The parents of Mrs. Kelly were both natives of Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. They had a family of five children, all of whom lived to mature years, namely: Cecelia A., Anna M., Charles S., Flora L. (now deceased) and James O. Cecelia became the wife of William Minsker, and Flora married Harry Bryson, and is now deceased. The mother in November, 1868, went on a visit to her parents, in Illinois, and also with the view to an improvement in her health. She did not live to return to her family, her death taking place in February following, of consumption. In May, 1869, the father removed with his family to Illinois, and died in Logan County in 1874.

Our subject engaged in farming in Illinois until February, 1882, and thence came to this county. He is a man who does not care to make himself very conspicuous in his community but has his own ideas about things in general, and meddles very little with those of the outside world. He keeps himself posted on current events, and watches with unalloyed satisfaction the triumph of the Republican party. His neighbors look upon him as a man to be trusted at all times, and as one contributing his full quota to the standing and respectability of the county.

Joseph Kelly, Jr., the father of our subject, was twice married prior to his union with the mother of the latter. His first wife was Miss Mary Moore,

and she became the mother of two children: Rosa, who died in Clay Precinct, Feb. 20, 1885, and was buried in Pawnee County; and John, who is now in Nebraska. He then married Miss Mary Hitchcock, and of this union there was no issue.



**A**UGUSTUS E. HASSLER. In this progressive age the weekly newspaper is one of the first institutions to plant itself in a young community of any enterprise, and its existence there indicates the general character of the people. The *Pawnee Republican*, of which A. E. and J. N. Hassler are editors and proprietors, was established in 1868 by Hon. Thomas R. Fisher, of Brownville, who at one time conducted the *Brownville Advertiser*, its name being then the *Pawnee Tribune*. The *Republican* was under his charge one year, during which time he made excellent headway, and then sold to Hon. J. L. Edwards, who conducted it successfully for one year, and then sold to Fred S. Hassler. At the end of fifteen months the remaining half-interest was disposed of to F. S. and J. N. Hassler, and in 1872 Augustus E. Hassler, our subject, purchased the entire outfit and changed the name. The paper from its first establishment has been Republican in politics. It is a seven-column quarto, and under its present management is rapidly assuming a position among the leading journals of Nebraska.

The most decided qualities in the character of Mr. Hassler were developed in his native State of Pennsylvania, he having been born in Westmoreland County, May 25, 1838. He was given a practical education in the common schools, but later entered Mt. Union College in Stark County, Ohio, where he remained a student until the outbreak of the Civil War. Then, at the age of about twenty-three years, he enlisted in Company F, 12th Pennsylvania Reserves, which was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. After three years' faithful service he veteranized in Company C, 190th Pennsylvania Infantry, remaining in the army until the surrender of Gen. Lee. He saw the smoke of battle in some of the most important engagements of the war, taking part in the seven-days fight under

Gen. McClellan in front of Richmond, and also in the battle of Antietam. At the latter place he was wounded by a gunshot through the thigh, and was confined in the hospital, principally at Harrisburg, four months. Then, rejoining his regiment, he took part in the battle of Gettysburg, the Wilderness and Appomattox. He received his final discharge July 3, 1865, after a service of four years.

Upon laying down the weapons of warfare Mr. Hassler returned to his old haunts in Pennsylvania, engaged in teaching school two terms, and was then appointed Storekeeper and Gauger of the Twenty-first Congressional District of Pennsylvania, a position which he held two years. In the fall of 1871 he crossed the Mississippi, likewise the Missouri, and coming to this county, engaged in his present newspaper enterprise at Pawnee City. He was married at Rostraver, Pa., in 1867, to Miss Lorinda Davis, a native of his own county in Pennsylvania, and the daughter of Davis Davis, of that county. To the fireside of Mr. and Mrs. Hassler there came five children, three sons and two daughters, who are all living, forming an exceedingly bright and interesting group. The family residence is in the eastern part of the city, and our subject and his estimable lady number their friends among its best people.



**A**ALEXANDER K. GOUDY, Superintendent of the county schools, is a man possessing considerable force of character and native talent, and one of those who cast their lot with the people of Nebraska in the fall of 1874. His early training was given him among the hills of the Buckeye State, he having been born near the city of Springfield, Clarke County, May 13, 1847. He lived there until a little lad of seven years, and then removed with his parents to Warren County, Ill., where they settled near Monmouth, the county seat. The latter were Thomas B. and Nancy P. (Kirkpatrick) Goudy, natives of Ohio, and who spent their last years in Nebraska, the father passing away in February, 1886, and the mother March 10, 1888.

The district school furnished to our subject his primary education, and among the peaceful pur-



suits of farm life he learned those habits of industry and economy which proved of use to him in after years. Later he became a student of the Normal University, where he gave close attention to his books for a period of two years, and then began teaching. Later he resumed farming, which he prosecuted one year in the Prairie State, and as we have stated sought the farther West in 1874. He now became fully identified with its educational interests, and began operations in Pawnee City as a teacher in the public schools, also as Principal, which position he held a number of years, and then changed the field of his operations to North Platte, where he spent two years.

At the expiration of this time Mr. Goudy established the Pawnee City Academy, which was opened in October, 1877, and was conducted as a private school until January, 1883. On the 1st of that month he entered upon his duties as a teacher in the Nebraska State Normal School at Peru, remaining there until 1884, then returned to Pawnee City, and soon thereafter was elected County Superintendent of Schools. He was re-elected in the fall of 1886 for a second term of three years.

Mr. Goudy was married, July 11, 1882, to Miss Alice Daily, daughter of William Daily, of Nemaha County. Mrs. Goudy was born in Madison, Ind., and they are the parents of one child, a daughter, Anna, who was born Aug. 20, 1886. Mr. Goudy, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and both he and his estimable wife are members in good standing of the United Presbyterian Church.



**H**IRAM FRAZEE, deceased, had been connected with the farming interests of Pawnee County for nearly a decade, and had within that time developed from the wild prairie a productive and finely improved farm, that is justly classed among the most fertile and profitable estates in Mission Creek Precinct. It was a fine location on section 36, and here our subject built up a home that for comfort and coziness vied with any in the neighborhood. The other farm buildings were neat and well kept, everything about the

place indicating the thrift, orderliness and industry of the owner.

Mr. Frazee was born Nov. 3, 1811, in Lebanon, Warren Co., Ohio, to Isaac and Elizabeth (Harrison) Frazee, natives of New Jersey, the father born in Elizabethtown, in the eastern part of that State. The paternal grandfather of our subject, John Frazee, who was of Scotch descent, was born in the New Jersey town mentioned. He was a private in the Revolutionary War, served seven years in the ranks, and was at one time a prisoner in New York City some twelve months. After the war he began farming in New Jersey. He afterward bought 500 acres of land in Warren County, Ohio, purposing to settle there as a pioneer, but in 1806, while on his way to that State, was smitten with death, he then being scarcely past the meridian of life, he being forty-six years old. The maternal grandfather of our subject, Isaac Harrison, was a New Jersey farmer, and was a lifelong resident of that State. Isaac, the father of Hiram Frazee, went to Ohio in 1806, when he was eighteen years old, and becoming an early settler of Warren County, began to clear a farm. He enlisted to quell Indian disturbances, under the leadership of Gen. Harrison, of Tippecanoe fame, and was with him when that noted battle was fought in November, 1811. He afterward served for eighteen months in the American Army, under Col. Hopkins, in the War of 1812. He then returned to his pioneer home in Warren County, and reclaimed the remainder of sixty-five acres from the wilderness. In 1833 he became a pioneer of Clinton County, bought eighty acres of land, engaged in farming and stock-raising, and there closed his life in 1840, at the age of fifty-two years. He was a man of strong character, and was a strict Presbyterian in his religious views. The mother of the subject of this memoir died in 1821, and the father was married a second time. Of the first marriage there were five children born, namely: John, Hiram, Esther, Harrison and Joseph, all now deceased. Of the second union there were the six following children: Isaac (deceased,) Betsy, Polly, Ann (deceased), Harriet and Pamela.

He of whom we write grew to manhood in the forest wilds of Ohio, and by the experiences of

pioneer life was molded into a stalwart, self-reliant, active youth. His education was gleaned in a pay school, and after he was sixteen years of age he ceased to attend. He remained at home until he was twenty-four. He then went to work for himself, renting his aunt's place in Warren County for twelve years. He then rented other farms in his native State until 1853, when he decided to try life in another State, and in the month of December went by boat to Naples, and thence to Sangamon County, Ill., where he rented land for four years. He then took up his residence in Springfield, that State, where he remained a year. At the expiration of that time he resumed farming. In 1860 he bought forty acres of land near Springfield, and was actively engaged in its tillage and in raising stock until 1879, when he disposed of his property there, having decided to try farming under the sunny skies of Nebraska. Coming here by rail he rented land the first season, and thus gained time to look around for a place suited to his requirements. He found such in his present farm, which was originally a tract of 160 acres of school land, with no improvement, and not a tree on it. He broke the soil, set out groves of forest trees, and an orchard of three acres, partly fenced his land, besides erecting a good set of farm buildings. Besides raising corn and the various other grains, vegetables, etc., usually raised by a Nebraska farmer, Mr. Frazee raised horses of fine blood and well-graded hogs. In his farm labors he had the valuable assistance of his son, who was in partnership with him. On this place he lived until his death, which occurred Feb. 9, 1889.

Hiram Frazee had been twice married. His first marriage, which took place in 1852, in Warren County, Ohio, was to Miss Nancy Casseday, who was born in Ohio in 1815, and died in 1858. His second marriage, June 17, 1862, in Sangamon County, Ill., was to Miss Sarah J. Morrison, daughter of James and Jane (Ewing) Morrison, natives respectively of Butler County, Ohio, and of a place near Lexington, Scott Co., Ky. Her paternal grandfather, David Morrison, a native of New Jersey, became one of the pioneers of Butler County, Ohio, where he cleared a large farm. Mrs. Frazee's maternal grandfather, Robert Ewing, was

born in Juniata County, Pa., and when a young man went to Kentucky, and engaged in the Indian wars, and afterward settled there and engaged in hunting and farming. In 1807 he moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, but remained there only a short time before removing to Butler County, where he bought 200 acres of forest covered land, cleared it, and continued to farm it until his retirement. He then went to Illinois with his grandchildren, and there died in 1856, at the venerable age of eighty-six years. His wife, whose maiden name was Mary Brown, was of Scotch descent and of Kentucky birth. She died in Ohio in 1846. Mrs. Frazee's father grew to manhood in Ohio, and there learned the carpenter's and also the shoemaker's trade. He continued in his native county, engaging in farming the latter part of his life, until his death in 1831, while yet in life's prime, he being but thirty-three years of age. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and a man whose sterling worth was acknowledged by all who came in contact with him. Mrs. Frazee's mother died in Illinois, Dec. 31, 1887, at the advanced age of eighty-two years. She had three children: John, who is deceased; Robert, in Illinois, and Sarah, the wife of our subject. The latter was born on the banks of the Big Maumee River, in Butler County, Ohio, Dec. 16, 1828. Her father dying when she was a child of three years, she went to live with her grandparents, and was twenty-three years old when they moved to Sangamon County, Ill. Of her marriage with Mr. Frazee two children have been born—William M. and Mary E. William is a very enterprising, intelligent young man. He was born in Island Grove Township, Sangamon Co., Ill., Oct. 30, 1863, and since coming to Nebraska has identified himself with the young agriculturists who are fast winning an important place in the farming community of Pawnee County. He ably assisted his father in making the improvements on his farm, and on him has now devolved its management. He is an ardent Republican in politics. Mr. Frazee's daughter was born in Island Grove Township, Ill., Dec. 13, 1866, and also resides at home.

Mr. Frazee was a man of high moral character, and possessed in a great degree the acumen, fore-



sight and frugality that characterized his Scotch ancestry. He had withal a kind disposition, and the needy and suffering never appealed to him in vain for sympathy and material aid. He was a thorough Democrat in his political sentiments, and took an intelligent view of questions of National import. He interested himself in local affairs and had served on the School Board, doing all that he could to advance the cause of education, and the United Presbyterian Church at Mission Creek had in him one of its most respected members. His death was not only the cause of great grief to his family and personal friends, but was felt to be in some measure a public loss.



PETER STEVENS, an energetic, extensive agriculturist of Table Rock Precinct, is one of the pioneers of Nebraska, having become a resident of this State in the fall of 1860, when he located in Spicer Precinct, Richardson County, pre-empting a tract of wild prairie land. During the twelve years that he lived there he added as many improvements as were made on any farm in that locality. He built fences, set out trees, and one fine grove of forest trees, which is still standing, is a living testimony to his labor and industry.

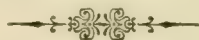
Our subject was born in Upper Canada, May 12, 1840. Jacob Stevens, his father, was born at Pamela Four Corners, Herkimer Co., N. Y., in 1814. When a young man he emigrated with a colony to the Province of Ontario, Canada, where he settled, and Jan. 1, 1835, there married Miss Mary Ann Monk. She was born in New York, Jan. 6, 1817, and is the daughter of Nicholas Monk, also a native of the Empire State. In 1845 Mr. Stevens moved with his family to Dodge County, Wis., and again took up new land, clearing a farm and living there until 1867, when he sold out and moved to Cass County, Iowa. He purchased a more extensive grain and stock farm, on which he and his good wife are still living at advanced ages, they having spent together fifty-four years of uninterrupted peace and contentment. On Jan. 1, 1885, they celebrated their golden wedding, our subject going

East to attend it. There were present a goodly number of children and grandchildren to extend congratulations and good wishes to the venerable couple. They reared a family of thirteen children, all of whom grew to maturity, and eight are still living.

Peter Stevens, of whom we write, was but five years of age when his parents settled in Wisconsin, where he grew to man's estate, receiving a practical common-school education, which he has since made good use of. He assisted his father on the farm until 1860, when, on the 1st of November, he started with a yoke of oxen and also one of cows for the farming country of Nebraska. He traveled the entire distance, 600 miles, in six weeks, averaging fifteen miles a day, and camped out nights. He was then a single man without cares, and made his first settlement in Richardson County, as before mentioned. The county was then sparsely populated, no roads were laid out, and our subject assisted in locating and building them. During his residence in that county he did his full share in advancing its interests, and was twice elected County Assessor, serving efficiently and faithfully in that office. In 1862 Mr. Stevens enlisted in the army, and for thirteen months did valiant service on the field, having been a member of Company G, 2d Nebraska Infantry, which fought on the frontier. For a more extended account of the engagement in which he took part, see sketch of Lieut. C. H. Norris. After being honorably discharged he resumed his agricultural labors in Richardson County, sparing neither time nor expense in the improvement of his farm. In 1881, having an opportunity to dispose of his property in that county to a good advantage, he did so, and coming to this precinct, bought eighty acres of his present homestead, to which as he has been able he has steadily added, until now he owns a rich and productive farm of 440 acres, all under good tillage or in pasture land. On it he has an orchard of 400 apple trees, besides an abundance of plums, cherries, and small fruits, and a plentiful supply of grapes. Our subject makes a specialty of stock-raising, having a large herd of a good grade of cattle, a great number of hogs and horses, feeding out all of his own corn, and frequently being obliged to buy more. He has taken an active

part in local affairs, and assisted in reorganizing District No. 34. He is an able business man, whose energies have been expended with the most satisfactory results, he having risen by his own exertions from a penniless lad to a man of affluence. Socially, he is a member of the Masonic fraternity, likewise of the I. O. O. F. and of the G. A. R. In politics he casts his vote with the Republican party, his first Presidential vote having been thrown for Abraham Lincoln.

The marriage of Mr. Stevens with Miss Elvira Steele was solemnized in Richardson County, March 11, 1872. She was born in Northern Indiana, June 4, 1846, and is a daughter of John B. and Mary Anne (Foster) Steele, natives respectively of Pennsylvania and Ohio. The grandfather Steele came from Holland, and her grandfather Foster lives in Indiana now at the age of ninety-five. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Steele lived for several years on a farm in Indiana, then moved to Missouri, where they lived until 1868. Coming at that time to Nebraska, they bought land in Rulo, and improved a farm, on which they are still living, retired from the active cares of life. Mrs. Steele is a faithful member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. To her and her husband were born thirteen children, all but one growing to maturity, and eleven of whom are living. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed by the birth of eight children, seven of whom are still living, namely: Annette, Nellie, Nasilva, William Edgar, Elizabeth J., Amy and Eliza. All are yet members of the home circle, and are being well educated.



**J**AMES F. GILL, of Pawnee City, is a prominent representative of its livery, feed and transfer interests, and brought with him from his native State of Ohio those qualities which invariably go to make up the thrifty and enterprising citizen. He was born in Vinton County, that State, April 29, 1845, and is the son of John and Eliza (Hall) Gill, both natives of Ross County, Ohio.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was James Hall, Esq., a man of considerable prominence

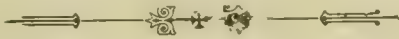
in his community. On the other side of the house Grandfather Joseph Gill was a native of Ireland. John Gill, the father of James F., was born in the city of McArthur, Vinton Co., Ohio, in 1821. He was a farmer by occupation, and was cut down in his prime, being killed by an accident in 1849, at the age of twenty-eight years. The parental household consisted of three children, two sons and one daughter, of whom James F. was the eldest.

The sister of Mr. Gill was a little child five months old at the time of their father's death, and the mother only lived six years thereafter. Mr. Gill was thus orphaned early in life, and left dependent upon his own resources. He was taken into the home of his paternal uncle, Samuel D. Gill, with whom he remained until the outbreak of the Civil War, in the meantime having removed to Illinois. He then enlisted in Company K, 40th Illinois Infantry, from the southern part of the State, in July, 1861. During his service of four years as a Union soldier, his regiment operated mostly with the Army of the Tennessee, and engaged in most of the battles of the long campaign which followed, being at Shiloh, the sieges of Corinth, Memphis and Vicksburg, the fight at Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Kenesaw Mountain, and the battle of Atlanta, where the brave Gen. McPherson was killed. Later they marched with the command of Gen. Sherman to the sea, and thence up through the Carolinas to Washington, taking part in the grand review. From there our subject was sent to Louisville, Ky., and next to Springfield, Ill., where he was mustered out July 8, 1865, and received his honorable discharge.

Upon retiring from the service Mr. Gill sojourned briefly at Clay City, Ill., then returned to Ohio, and was married to Miss Nancy J. Dennison, of McArthur, in 1870. They settled on a farm, and remained in that State until 1872, when Mr. Gill determined to seek his fortunes in the farther West. Crossing the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers he took up his abode first in Furnas County, this State, and homesteaded 160 acres of land, which now forms the town site of Henley. He operated upon this land until 1884, then changed his residence to Pawnee City, and put up the livery



barn which he now occupies. This is a neat, strong structure, covering an area of 48x106 feet, with a solid stone basement. Within it he keeps a fine stock of horses and road vehicles, which are patronized by the best people of the city. He also has an omnibus and hack line, and from the two combined realizes a handsome income. Socially, he belongs to the G. A. R., but takes little interest in politics aside from faithfully casting his vote with the Republican party.



**JOHN C. WOOD.** This gentleman is one of the farmers of Table Rock Precinct, owning and occupying 330 acres on sections 19 and 20, his residence being on the former. He first came to Nebraska in 1857, landing in Brownville on the 29th of May, and coming to Table Rock August 10 of the same year. His first land he secured by pre-emption, and when he got it it was nothing but raw prairie, on which he set out the first tree and turned the first furrow. He has been a great advocate of tree culture, and at different times has set out large numbers, having now about 800, living, on his place. He has upon his farm the finest orchard in the county, and also raises an abundance of grapes and the smaller fruits in general.

When Mr. Wood first came here he began to build a sawmill on the Nemaha, but about the time he got it completed the stream cut a new channel for itself, and left the mill high and dry. Since that he has given his whole attention to farming. He has made many improvements, having all the necessary farm buildings and a good, comfortable home. All the general improvements made upon the farm have been done by him, and it is now in a thrifty condition. He has always dealt largely in stock, and has bought more grain than he has sold. He usually has a herd of about fifty cattle, and a large number of hogs. For several years he kept as many as 500 or 600 sheep, but he found that cattle paid better, and he abandoned dealing in sheep.

In 1856 Mr. Wood went across the plains to Montana, being on the road from May 1 to July

28. He at once began mining, and remained there two years, bringing home a fair amount of dust. His birthplace was in Albany County, N. Y., the date of that to him important event being March 25, 1835. When he was two years old his parents moved to Cayuga County, N. Y., and there our subject lived for many years. He attended the common schools, and finished his education at the State Normal School, after which he taught for many years. Since coming to Nebraska he has made this his home, with the exception of two years which he spent in Brown County, Kan., but liking Nebraska better he returned, believing this to be the best place on earth.

April 28, 1870, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Mary Heywood, in Table Rock. Of this union there have been six children, four now living: Edgar W., Myron, Katie E. and Edith A., all of whom are living with their parents. Mrs. Wood was born in Ohio, and further particulars of her family history are given under the name of A. E. Heywood. Our subject has been prominent in school affairs in his district, and takes a warm interest in the cause of prohibition.



**REV. ZENAS B. TURMAN.** By a happy dispensation of Providence, men are appointed to various walks in life, some as tillers of the soil, and others evidently created for the purpose of upholding a no less important element of human life—man's moral and religious nature. Among the men who came to Nebraska Territory before some of its counties had been organized was the subject of this sketch, who first set foot upon its soil as early as 1856. He spent his first winter at Rock Bluff, Cass County, where he assisted in the organization of a church, and the winter following proceeded as far west as Salt Creek, two years before there was any indication of the present city of Lincoln. He made a tour of seven counties, preaching at intervals in sixteen places. Among his hearers was the chief Spotted Horse, and his band of warriors, to whom he discoursed by the aid of a Government interpreter. In the interest of the Master he also preached at

Four Mile Creek, west of Plattsmouth. Eight Mile Grove, and Louisville, having at the latter place a great revival.

Mr. Turner was the pioneer preacher of this region, being the first man to raise the standard of the cross in this section. In his journeyings he visited Wahoo and Pawnee, thirty miles north, journeyed up Salt Creek, and visited Beatrice when it was a hamlet of six or eight wooden houses. He also went to Tecumseh and Nebraska City, sojourning in the latter place with a Mr. Gould, a relative of the railroad king, Jay Gould. It took about 500 miles' travel to encompass his circuit, he in the meantime frequently encountering storms, being out sometimes all night, and often swimming his horse across the streams. A man of iron constitution and strong will, he surmounted difficulties which at the present day would be considered almost beyond the strength of man to overcome. Upon one occasion he started from the house of a Mr. Shaw, of Beatrice, during a severe snowstorm, finally lost his way, and giving his horse the rein, let the animal proceed at its will, and at night found himself at the same door from which he had started.

In 1859 Mr. Turman was located at Fontanelle, and the next year at Tekamah. He founded new church societies wherever possible, and assisted the feeble ones already struggling for existence. He was the first man holding a religious meeting in all of Southern Dakota and that vicinity. At this time Indians abounded in this region, and white people were often massacred. At Fontanelle upon one occasion, he with others helped to subdue the Indians who had already murdered a number of whites, until a company of cavalry could be sent to their relief. They then started after the Indians (Pawnees), and Mr. Turman officiated as temporary chaplain for the soldiers.

Mr. Turman, upon one occasion, in Dakota, Dakota Co., Neb., was stricken down with smallpox, but fortunately recovered after the weeks of suffering incident with this terrible disease. He had identified himself with the Methodist Episcopal Conference, and was superannuated in 1863. Since that time he has been engaged considerably in farming. He was a resident of Nemaha five years, but came to Pawnee County in the fall of 1871.

taking up a tract of land four miles east of Table Rock. For the last six years he has been a resident of his present farm. He assisted in the organization of the first school district, and later was elected Mayor of Nemaha. During a long and useful career he has been honored and respected by all with whom he came in contact.

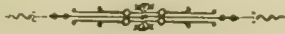
Mr. Turman was born near Carlisle, Clinton Co., Ill., April 23, 1819, but when a child removed with his parents to a point near Miriam, Sullivan Co., Ind. Later they changed their residence to Fountain County, where the death of his father took place, and where young Turman was engaged in teaching a period of twelve years. In the meantime he officiated as a supply in the pulpit of the Northern Indiana Conference, the Monticello District. Upon one occasion he was sent to the Miami Indians, but the chief would not allow him to preach. Upon leaving Indiana he sojourned for a brief time in Illinois, and for four years was a colporteur for the Methodist Episcopal Conference.

Our subject was first married to Miss Sarah B. Swinzler, who became the mother of one child, and died at an early age. In 1860 he was a second time married, at Omaha, to Miss Catherine A. Gustin. They became the parents of seven children, of whom the following are living: The eldest, Anna E., is the wife of George Smith, of Nemaha City, and the mother of two children; James M. married Miss Clara Turner, and is living in this county; Mary L. is the wife of Lone Fisher.

Jacob Turman, the father of our subject, was a native of Ohio, and spent the most of his life occupied as a preacher. The paternal grandfather, Benjamin Turman, was born and reared in the Buckeye State, whence he removed to Sullivan County, Ind., at an early day, being the first white man to settle within its limits. He secured land twenty-five miles south of the present city of Terre Haute, on what was subsequently named Turman Prairie. The grandmother was in her girlhood Miss Spurlock, a relative of the forefathers of Burwell Spurlock, at present a resident of Plattsmouth. Jacob Turman departed this life in 1834, at the age of forty-eight years. Benjamin Gustin, the father of Mrs. Turman, was a native of Indiana, where he was reared to manhood, married, and became the



father of three children. The mother died when Mrs. Turman was an infant. She was reared in the family of Benjamin B. Barclow, now a resident of Omaha, and removed with him from Ohio to Omaha, where she lived until her marriage. She was born Sept. 19, 1838, and received her education in the common schools of the Buckeye State. The journey to the West was made in 1856, the same year that Mr. Turman came to Nebraska.



**J**OSEPH L. EDWARDS. Pawnee City has been an objective point for a large number of intelligent and capable men, the professions being amply represented, as well as the more practical pursuits of life. Mr. Edwards, as one of the leading attorneys of this county, is contributing his quota to its standing and reputation, and at the same time making for himself a good record, also acquiring a competence. He was born in Sullivan County, Tenn., near the present town site of Bristol, June 10, 1830.

This branch of the Edwards family is essentially Southern, the grandparents on both sides of the house having been natives of Virginia. His parents, Owen and Amanda (Longacre) Edwards, were born in Tennessee, where they became the parents of five sons and three daughters, only four of whom are living. The father was a farmer by occupation and Joseph L. assisted in the labors of the homestead until a youth of fifteen years. The family then removed to Davis County, Iowa, with the exception of our subject, who completed his education in Tennessee. Then he joined his parents in Iowa and engaged in teaching, which profession he followed about five years.

In June, 1860, Mr. Edwards migrated to this county, at a time when Pawnee City was a hamlet of five or six houses. For several winters following he taught school and pursued the study of law during his leisure hours, which he had begun while in Tennessee. He was finally employed in the office of the County Clerk, but in 1869 purchased the *Pawnee Tribune*, which had been established by F. R. Fisher, and was the first paper started at that place. Later its name was changed to that of

the *Pawnee Republican*. Mr. Edwards conducted this successfully as editor and proprietor for some time, but later sold out, and was appointed Judge of the Probate Court to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of W. F. Wright. At the expiration of the term he was regularly elected to the office, which he held five years. At the same time he carried on the business of a druggist and officiated as Postmaster, also as Deputy County Treasurer. Upon retiring from the Judge's bench he turned his attention more exclusively to the practice of law, which he has pursued to the present time in connection with the duties of his official position. He gives due attention to collections and loans, and enjoys a good income from the several sources.

Miss Sarah A. Ball, of Pawnee City, became the wife of our subject in October, 1863. Mrs. Edwards was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, and is the daughter of Reason Ball. Of this union there have been born four children, all daughters. The eldest, Elma L., is the wife of Charles B. Wortham; Florence Mabel and Alberta are deceased; and May is at home.

Mr. Edwards, during his early manhood, affiliated with the Republican party, but is liberal in his political views, and aims to support the men best qualified for office. Socially, he belongs to the I. O. O. F., Interior Lodge No. 9, and Pawnee Lodge No. 23. In religious matters he inclines to the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church.



**J**OHAN H. BRATTON. Dotted here and there throughout Pawnee Precinct are scores of homesteads which stand as silent monuments to the industry and patience of the pioneer settlers of Nebraska, some of whom have passed to their long home, and their property is now occupied by others. To those who are maintaining the reputation of their estate by the same plodding industry and good judgment are we no less indebted than to those who first established themselves on the virgin soil.

Mr. Bratton is numbered among the most enterprising men of Pawnee Precinct, to whose agricult-

ural interests he is contributing in no small degree. He gives his attention largely to graded stock, and is able to exhibit some of the finest animals to be found in this part of the county. He was well fitted by his early life and surroundings for an active and successful career, being a son of the Buckeye State, born March 7, 1837, near Winchester, in Guernsey County, where he lived until a youth of nineteen years. His parents were William and Martha (Henderson) Bratton, the father a native of Juniata County, Pa., the mother of Guernsey County, Ohio. The former settled there with his parents, remaining in his adopted State after his marriage until 1856.

In the year above mentioned William Bratton determined to seek his fortunes in the farther West, and accordingly migrated across the Mississippi and settled with his family near the Wapsipinicon River, in Jones County, Iowa. Later they changed their residence to Adams County, that State, where, the parents looked their last upon the scenes of earth, the mother surviving her husband three years. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters, all of whom lived to maturity, and of whom John was the eldest born. All of these are still living, and make their homes in Iowa and Nebraska.

The common schools furnished to young Bratton the rudiments of a practical education, while his own native shrewdness and habits of observation contributed to make of him a man more than ordinarily well informed. His first ambition was to secure a home and a farm of his own, and he judged that with a companion and helpmate this task would not be impossible. He was accordingly married, Oct. 7, 1862, to Miss Lucy A. Gilbert, who was born in Chardon, Ohio, and moved with her father, Russell Gilbert, to Iowa before her marriage.

Our subject and his wife after uniting their destinies located in the vicinity of Lowden, Iowa, along the Northwestern Railroad in Cedar County, and he engaged jointly in mercantile business and stock-raising, dealing largely in cattle and swine. Three years later he changed his residence to Wyoming, where he sojourned ten years similarly occupied. We next find him in Lenox, Taylor County, where he conducted a store eight years. In the

fall of 1883 he determined to try the experiment of life upon Nebraska soil, and for two years thereafter was a clerk in the employ of E. M. Lyons.

Mr. Bratton notwithstanding his migrations had accumulated quite a little capital, and in March, 1888, took possession of his present farm of 240 acres on section 20, Pawnee Precinct. He still prosecutes the stock-raising industry, and deals largely in Jersey cattle, of which he has several very handsome animals on his farm. He has been very successful in this line, and has already gained an enviable reputation in connection therewith. He has very little to do with public affairs, but uniformly votes the Republican ticket, and in religious matters is identified with the United Presbyterian Church.

**JAMES PEPPERL.** Among the younger business men of Burchard, Mr. Pepperl is worthy of special mention. He is a practical harness-maker, master of his trade, and is carrying on a good business in connection with this article of merchandise. He has a true conception of the manner in which his patrons should be treated, and for this reason they are steadily increasing in numbers, he in a like proportion receiving benefit therefrom.

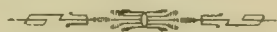
The childhood home of our subject was a long way from his present abiding-place, he having been born on the other side of the Atlantic in the little town of Gossawoda, Austria, March 22, 1862. He was reared upon a farm and received a very good education in his native tongue, attending school from the age of six to twelve years. He then emigrated to America with his parents, embarking at the port of Bremen early in May that year on the steamer "Rhine," which, twelve days later, landed them in New York City. Thence they made their way via Chicago, Ill., to this county, locating in Plum Creek Precinct, where our subject started out for himself, working summers, and attending school as he had opportunity in the winter.

At the age of sixteen Mr. Pepperl began an apprenticeship at the harness trade, which he pursued



in Pawnee City until 1878, one year under the instruction of Mr. John Butler, and at this served an apprenticeship of three years in Pawnee City. Later he followed his trade in Table Rock until 1882. In the spring of that year Mr. Pepperl took up his residence in Burchard and established his present business, succeeding so well that in 1883 he was enabled to put up the building which he now occupies. He keeps a finely assorted stock of harness and other furnishings pertaining to this branch of trade, carrying a \$1,500 stock of goods. This being the only enterprise of the kind in the place, he enjoys the monopoly, and is consequently making good headway financially.

Mr. Pepperl, in the summer of 1885, invested a part of his spare capital in three building lots on Second street, where he put up a good residence, which, with its surroundings, forms a very tasteful and comfortable home. He was married January 19, that year, to Miss Molly Hammond, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Nebraska with her parents. They have two children: Don Carlos, born June 1886, and Reuah Frances, in March, 1887. Mr. P. votes with the Union Labor party, which he frequently represents in the various State and County Conventions, and in religious matters belongs to the Catholic Church. Socially, he is a member of Burchard Lodge No. 95, I. O. O. F., having passed all the Chairs, and been made a delegate to the Grand Lodge. As a Mason he belongs to Upright Lodge No. 137, also to Chapter No. 20, at Pawnee City, also to the K. T. at Tecumseh, Neb.



**M**RS. MARGARET SHEWEY. The women of Pawnee County have played no unimportant part in its development from early pioneer days, proving themselves fully able to cope with the difficulties and hardships of settlement on the frontier far from the centers of civilization, and at the present time they are represented here in many walks of life, professional and otherwise, the subject of this sketch, who was one of the very first settlers on the banks of Wolf Creek, being closely identified with the agricultural inter-

ests of the county. She is very successful in the management of her beautiful farm of 200 acres, 120 of which are on section 4, and the remaining eighty acres on section 5 of Plum Creek Precinct. Nearly 100 acres of this are natural forest, and with the remainder, which has a very rich and productive soil, well watered by the waters of Wolf Creek, is neatly hedged and fenced, and has a good orchard and a fine set of farm buildings, forms one of the most attractive and best paying estates to be seen for miles around. Mrs. Shewey delights in beautifying her homestead and the grounds around her fine residence on section 4, and consequently has one of the pleasantest homes in the precinct. She devotes her attention to raising grain and to general farming.

Our subject was born near Covington, in Fountain Co., Ind., Aug. 2, 1839. She enjoyed the usual school privileges of the times, attending school in a log house, and remained an inmate of the parental home until her marriage. Her father, Henry Beaver, was born in Virginia, and his father, Mathias Beaver, was born near Chillicothe, Ohio. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. He was a farmer by occupation, and owned and operated a large farm, and was extensively engaged in stock-raising. His death occurred in Preble County, Ohio, when he was seventy years of age. His wife, Mary J., died in Indiana in 1843. Mrs. Shewey's father was brought up in Ohio, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising for several years, owning a large farm. He married Elizabeth Walker, a native of Preble County, Ohio. Her father was a patriotic soldier in the Revolution, and was wounded in one of the engagements, and being left on the battlefield, froze to death. His wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Rhodes, was born in Ohio, and died in Indiana, at the age of eighty years. In 1835 Mr. Beaver sold his property in Ohio and moved to the wilds of Indiana, and locating in Fountain County, was one of the first three white settlers who ever made their home there, the rest of the inhabitants then being Indians. He entered 300 acres of forest covered land, cleared it, improved it in good shape, and acquired wealth by farming and stock-raising. He died on his homestead in October, 1875, aged sixty-seven years, his wife having pre-

ceded him in death in 1868, at the age of sixty-two years. He was a staunch Republican in his political sentiments, and, with his good wife, was a devout Methodist in religion. They had ten children, namely: Christian, John, Joseph and Catherine, (all of whom are dead), Margaret, Michael, Alex, Nancy, Mary and James (the latter two being dead). Alex served gallantly throughout the entire Rebellion. He enlisted in the spring of 1861, became Lieutenant in an Indiana cavalry regiment, serving the entire time under the brave Phil Sheridan.

Mrs. Shewey was married in her native State, near Covington, Nov. 15, 1849, to Joseph Shewey. He was a native of Preble County, Ohio, and a son of a well-to-do Indiana farmer. After marriage they improved a farm in Indiana, comprising eighty acres, and lived thereon until 1853, when they sold out, and going to Bloomington, Ill., entered land, remaining there one year. At the expiration of that time they sold again, and in 1854 located in Henry County, the same State, buying 200 acres of land in Geneseo, and became early settlers of that place, improved the land, and engaged in stock-raising until the fall of 1867, when they came to Nebraska on account of Mr. Shewey's health. They located in Plum Creek Precinct, buying 600 acres of Government land. The country round about was inhabited mostly by Indians at that time, there being only a few white people here, and our subject and her husband were the first settlers on Wolf Creek. They began immediately to improve the land and prepare it for culture, and they built the first house in the precinct. The lumber had to be drawn from St. Joseph, Mo., and amid the trials and tribulations of frontier life they finally established their residence here, and improved the whole farm, which is an extensive one and under the best of tillage, and supplied with everything in the shape of buildings and machinery necessary for its successful management.

The following is recorded of the eight children born to our subject and her husband: Sylvester is farming in Iowa; Marion is a photographer in Liberty; Wallace is a farmer in Morton County, Kan.; Nathan is farming in Kansas; Franklin at home; Louisa married W. S. Isaac, a farmer in

Pawnee County; Serinda married W. Smith, a farmer and stock-raiser in Pawnee County; Emma married R. Weirs, a farmer in Hall County, Neb.

Mrs. Shewey is considered by her fellow agriculturists an energetic, intelligent, practical farmer, who has been an important factor in promoting the advancement of agriculture in this locality. She is a woman of extraordinary force of character, and is capable of doing anything to which she turns her attention. She possesses excellent judgment, much tact and sound sense. Religiously, she holds to the Baptist faith and is identified with the church of that denomination in Burchard, having been a charter member of the society. She is interested in politics and favors the Republican party.



**h**ON. WILLIAM BROWN RAPER, ex-County Clerk of Pawnee County, was born near the town of Linton, in Greene County, Ind., Oct. 29, 1832. He traces his ancestry to the Old Dominion, of which his paternal grandfather was a native, and born in 1777. He married Miss Elizabeth Bray, of North Carolina, and among their sons was Andrew, the father of our subject, who was born in Hardin County, Ky., Jan. 26, 1808.

Andrew Raper upon reaching man's estate married Miss Eliza I. Christy, of North Carolina. This lady was the daughter of Joseph and Ann Christy, who were early settlers of Indiana and of Irish extraction. After the death of her husband Mrs. Christy made the journey to Pawnee City, and spent her last years with her youngest daughter, passing away in 1885. The parental family included sixteen children, five sons and eleven daughters, nine of whom survive. The mother of our subject was the grandmother of eighty-seven grandchildren, and was born in December, 1809. Andrew Raper is still living, and a resident of Pawnee City, Neb. He served as a soldier in the Union Army during the late war, being a member of Company I, 83d Indiana Infantry, doing duty three years, and meeting the enemy in many of the important battles of the war. He was shot through the thigh at Chickamauga, and likewise had a part of his gun



shot away. He was one of those who marched under Gen. Sherman to the sea. The record of his hardships and privations is the common story of those who fought for the preservation of the Union.

Mr. Raper, our subject, spent his early years in the rural districts, assisting in the tilling of the soil, in sowing and reaping, and received only a limited education. He lived with his parents until nearing the twenty-second year of his age, then going to Brown County, Ill., worked on a farm at \$13 per month one year. Thence he migrated to Indiana, where he was employed as a clerk, and from there came to Nebraska. We find him established in Pawnee City in 1859, preparing to engage in mercantile business in company with David Butler, they having the third store started in the place. They operated together until 1875, with the exception of the three years which our subject spent in the army. In 1862 he enlisted in the 2d Nebraska Cavalry, with which he spent one year, then joined the Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, serving two years on the plains chasing Indians, and also being chased by them. From this service he was honorably discharged July 1, 1866. Upon leaving the army he at once returned to Pawnee City, and continued mercantile business with Mr. Butler, as before stated. They suspended business in 1874, paying all debts and the accumulated interest.

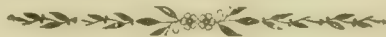
We next find Mr. Raper as clerk in the dry-goods store of J. R. Ervin, a position which he held until 1881, being elected that year Clerk of Pawnee County, and assuming the duties of his office in January, 1882. The year following he was re-elected, and served in all a period of four years. In the year 1877 he was created a member of the State Legislature, to fill a vacancy caused by the resignation of W. F. Wright. When retired from the Clerk's office he was succeeded by his son, John B., who was re-elected in 1887, and still holds the office.

Upon retiring from the Clerk's office Mr. Raper once more engaged in mercantile business, establishing himself at Burchard, where he continued until the spring of 1888. He then sold out and retired from active business. He was first married over thirty years ago, in September, 1856, to Miss

Mary J. Butler, a cousin of Gov. Butler, of Nebraska, and a native of Linton, Ind. Mrs. Mary J. Raper died in February, 1864, leaving two children, a son and daughter: John B., already spoken of, and Fanny, the wife of D. D. Davis, an attorney-at-law in Pawnee City.

The present wife of our subject, to whom he was married Jan. 17, 1867, was formerly Miss Elizabeth J., daughter of Amos and Martha (Weill) Coffey, of Bloomington, Ind. The five children of this union comprised one son and four daughters. The son, William C., and the eldest daughter, Luanna, died in infancy. The survivors are Grace, Myrtle and Lilly, who remain at home with their parents.

Mr. Raper, politically, is a decided Republican, and as he has opportunity labors for the success of his party. Socially, he belongs to Pawnee Lodge No. 23, Interior Lodge No. 9, I. O. O. F., and is a Knight of Pythias. He is the owner of two good farms in Kansas and a tract of wild land in the same State.



**H**ON. MAXWELL K. WALKER, a leading merchant of Mission Creek and also an extensive stock buyer and feeder, is the scion of an excellent family, being the son of William Walker, who was born in Huntingdon County, Pa., and married Miss Maria Kinkead, a native of Blair County, that State. The paternal grandfather, John Walker, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, and emigrated to America prior to the Revolutionary War, locating in Huntingdon County. Before coming to America he had served as a soldier in the British Army, and engaged in many important battles, among them the siege of Londonderry. In Pennsylvania he occupied himself as an hotel-keeper at Alexandria. He was a great admirer of the principles of Masonry, and one of the first men to organize a lodge of this fraternity in the Keystone State, becoming one of its leading men. He spent the remainder of his life in Huntingdon County, dying in 1816, at the age of eighty years.

On the mother's side of the house Grandfather Maxwell Kinkead, also a native of Ireland, was a descendant of the famous Maxwell family, of

County Down, and upon coming to America likewise located in Huntingdon County, settling at Yellow Springs. He did good service in the Continental Army, receiving an officer's commission. He was a man of high character, more than ordinarily intelligent, and occupied many positions of trust and responsibility, finally being chosen to represent his district in the State Legislature. He departed this life in 1842, at the age of seventy-six years. His wife was Miss Deborah Cadwallader, a lady of Welsh descent and of an excellent old Quaker family. Her brothers served in the Revolutionary War, one of them as a General.

William Walker was born in 1804, and on approaching manhood occupied himself largely as a hunter until his marriage. He then engaged in mercantile business at Petersburg and other places in Pennsylvania. He finally removed from Huntingdon to Blair County, thence to Davenport, Iowa, in 1851, purchasing land, in the vicinity of which that city was afterward built up. He became the owner of 360 acres, which under his careful management became quite valuable. Finally, selling out, he removed to Kellogg, and made his home with a daughter there until his death, which took place in 1885, when he was eighty-one years old. The mother survived her husband one year, dying in 1886, at the age of eighty. Mr. Walker had been an Elder in the Presbyterian Church for many years, and Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He was indeed one of the pillars, ever yielding to it a cheerful and liberal support.

To the parents of our subject there were born eight children, namely: Eliza, who died when about thirty-five years old; Maxwell K., our subject; Catherine; Deborah; David, who died in infancy; Charles, a resident of Decatur County, Kan.; Sally and Howard, both deceased.

The subject of this sketch was born in Blair's Gap, Blair Co., Pa., on the 4th of December, 1841, and received a common-school education. He was a lad ten years of age when his parents removed to Ohio, and recalls the fact that they made the trip mostly by water. He was reared amid the quiet scenes of country life, and was taught at an early age to make himself useful around the homestead. When a youth of twenty years he attended school one

term at Vermillion, Ohio, then, returning to Iowa, remained there a time, then repaired to Fulton, Ill., and entered the Western Union College, where he pursued his studies also one year. At the expiration of this time, the Civil War being in progress, he enlisted in the service, in Company D, of the 20th Iowa Infantry, and was under the command of Gen. Schofield, going all through the Missouri campaign. He met the enemy at Prairie Grove, and was in various other skirmishes until the troops concentrated at Vicksburg, and he engaged with his comrades in the siege of the city. In July they proceeded to Yazoo, and were thereafter at Jackson, wintering in Texas. Mr. Walker entered the service as a private, and was mustered out an Orderly Sergeant. He was proffered a Lieutenant's commission, but declined. He received his honorable discharge at the close, and was mustered out of service at Clinton, Iowa, in July, 1865, nearly three years from the time of his enlistment.

Upon retiring from the army Mr. Walker resumed farming in Iowa for three years. Then, desirous of becoming further advanced in his studies, he returned to Vermillion Institute, taking the classical course of two years. Afterward he taught school near Clarksville, Ark., one year. Later we find him at Pittsburgh in the employ of the Pullman Palace Car Company as a conductor, which post he held for a period of three years. He then engaged in the grocery trade at Davenport one year, when he was caught by the panic of 1874, and withdrew.

Mr. Walker was married in Ashland, Ohio, Jan. 8, 1874, to Miss Elizabeth J. Sloan. This lady was born in Westmoreland County, Pa., and received a good education, being graduated from Vermillion Institute, afterward occupying herself as a teacher in Ashland County, Ohio, for a number of years.

Mr. Walker in the spring of 1874 came to this State, locating at Beatrice, where he lived for a time, and thence came to Mission Creek. He purchased his stock of general merchandise, in which he rapidly built up a good trade, and that same year was appointed Postmaster, which office he held until December, 1882. In 1882 he purchased 160 acres of land on section 27, an uncultivated tract, from which he has built up a good farm, ef-



fecting modern improvements, and from which he now realizes a good income. The farm is especially well watered by a never-failing spring, and is largely devoted to live stock, including cattle and swine. His thoroughbred Short-horns are the admiration of the country around, and among his horses may be found some of the finest animals in this region. In his store Mr. W. carries a \$4,000 stock of goods, comprising everything in his line suitable for the village or country household.

After filling many other positions of trust and responsibility, Mr. Walker in 1882 was elected to represent his county in the Legislature by a large majority on the Republican ticket, and was one of the original eight who selected Gen. Manderson for the United States Senate. Socially, he belongs to the A. O. U. W. at Davenport, is a charter member of the G. A. R. at Pawnee City, and in religious matters is identified with the Presbyterian Church at Liberty. In politics, it is hardly necessary to state he is a staunch supporter of Republican principles.



**J**OHIN W. SHAW. In reviewing the pioneer history of Pawnee County there are the names of so many so inseparably connected with its early development that no record could be entirely complete without notice of their lives and labors. In this class may be most properly mentioned the gentleman herein brought to notice, who was one of the first men to cast his lot with the adventurous spirits who pitched their tents in Table Rock Precinct. The story of the struggles and hardships of those early times can never be fully delineated, because the pioneer had other things to occupy himself with than to carry around with him his pencil and memorandum book, and thus many incidents have necessarily passed from his recollection. We are now mostly dependent upon the memory of those to whom the early scenes of life on the frontier seem, at this late day, more like a dream than a reality.

Mr. Shaw came to this region in March, 1867, and took up a homestead claim of 160 acres, occupying the northwest quarter of section 9. There

had been no attempt at cultivation, and his neighbors were few and far between, there being but three houses in sight. Mr. Shaw first put up a small frame building of cottonwood boards, sixteen feet square, as a shelter for his family, and as soon as possible began plowing, and succeeded in preparing that first year twenty acres for cultivation and sowing it with grain. There was neither a tree nor shrub upon the place, and his next business was to set out something which should afford a shelter and also be a means of providing his family with some of the luxuries of life. He thus planted four acres of forest trees, a good apple orchard and the trees of the smaller fruits, together with considerable hedge fencing.

As rapidly as possible Mr. Shaw proceeded with the cultivation of his land, and in due time found it the source of a comfortable income. Later he turned his attention to stock-raising, and now has a fine herd of high-grade Short-horn cattle, also horses and swine. In due time the first rude dwelling gave place to the large, comfortable residence which now graces the farm, this being completed in 1883. It is tasteful in architecture, well finished and furnished, and has a solid stone foundation, forming a fine cellar. The dwelling with its surroundings forms one of the most attractive homes in this section of the county.

The first school district was organized after the arrival of Mr. Shaw in Table Rock Precinct, and in due time he was made a member of the School Board, and has assisted in the erection of two houses on the same ground. The school of his district is now considered one of the best regulated in the precinct. He has held various other local offices, serving as Assessor two terms, and as Justice of the Peace two years. The fact that he is highly spoken of by his neighbors and fellow-citizens is sufficient indication of his standing in his community. In religious matters he belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and socially, he is a member of the G. A. R.

Allegany County, N. Y., was the native place of our subject, his birth occurring Oct. 12, 1837. Six months later his parents removed to Jo Daviess County, Ill., settling among its earliest pioneers, and there John W. pursued his first studies in the

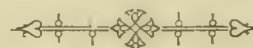
district school, later becoming a pupil in Mt. Morris Academy. He was twenty-four years of age at the outbreak of the Civil War, and on the 24th of May, 1861, enlisted in Company E, 15th Illinois Infantry, journeying soon afterward with his regiment to the South. He first saw the smoke of battle at Pittsburg Landing, where he was wounded in the knee, and after being confined in the hospital was obliged to accept his honorable discharge in October, 1862, and returned home. When fully recovered he resumed farming in Illinois, and on the 10th of January, 1867, was married to Miss Maria L. Eckert, of Nora, Jo Daviess Co., Ill. They soon afterward sought their new home in Nebraska.

To our subject and his wife there have been born two children, Alice B. and Henry J., who have been given a good education and are still at home. The wife of our subject is a native of Tompkins County, N. Y., and was born Sept. 16, 1844. She left her native State with her parents when about ten years old, they removing to Jo Daviess County, Ill., where she sojourned with them until her marriage. Her father, Levi Eckert, was also a native of the Empire State and a mason by trade. Her mother's maiden name was Rebecca Snyder; her father is deceased. Her mother is still living, now a resident of Michigan.

Eneas Shaw, the father of the subject of this sketch, was born in Massachusetts, from whence he removed early in life to New York State, settling in Allegany County. He married Miss Sila Phipin, and to them were born thirteen children, twelve of whom lived to mature years. Upon the removal of the family to Jo Daviess County, Ill., the father took up a tract of land from which he improved a good farm, which he remained upon the balance of his life. His death occurred about 1850, and that of his excellent wife in 1865, both dying at the old homestead. They were people who made very little stir in the world, but were careful and conscientious in the performance of their duties as parents and neighbors, and were consistent members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

John W. Shaw cast his first Presidential vote for Lincoln, since which time he has been a strong supporter of the Republican party. He has signalized himself as a liberal and public-spirited citizen, la-

boring as he has had opportunity for the growth and progress of his adopted county. In building up one of the most valuable homesteads he has added thus much to the importance of its real-estate interests, and its desirability as a place of residence.



**JOHN CARVER.** Conspicuous among the men who have materially aided the growth of Miles Precinct is the gentleman whose name appears at the head of this biographical notice. He is one of the leading farmers of the precinct, and no one has more largely advanced its agricultural interests than he. He owns a large and well-appointed stock farm, comprising 320 acres of the best land to be found in the neighborhood, finely located on sections 11 and 2.

Mr. Carver was born in County Limerick, Ireland, in October, 1826. His father, William Carver, was born in the same county. Thomas Carver, grandfather of our subject, was a native of County Cork, Ireland, grew to manhood in the city of Cork, and then moved to County Limerick. He there purchased a large farm, and besides cultivating the soil became engaged in the dairy business, and accumulated a comfortable competence. His death occurred when he had attained his seventy-first year. The father of our subject was reared on his father's farm. He was married in County Cork, to Miss Nora Casey, a native of that county. Her father, Frank Casey, was a large land-owner, and had several farms in County Cork, managing them all himself, besides keeping a public inn at Glenworth. His death occurred in 1822. Mr. Carver was a coach agent for several years from the time he was eighteen years old, driving a four-horse mail coach. He lost money by the sudden death of the man he worked for, who owed him a large sum of money besides his salary. Mr. Carver then devoted himself exclusively to the management of his farms, of which he had three, and which he had carried on while engaged in business. He was in comfortable circumstances at the time of his death in 1850, at the age of sixty-five. The mother of our subject died in Norwich, Conn., in



1872, at the age of sixty-eight years. She was a good Christian woman and a devoted member of the Catholic Church. To her and her husband eleven children were born, as follows: Hannah, who lives in Norwich, Conn.; John; Frank, a resident of Providence, R. I.; Annie, Mary, Nora and Ellen, all of whom are deceased; Bridget, who lives in Rhode Island; Eliza, who resides in Burchard, Neb.; Michael, deceased, and Thomas, who lives in Massachusetts. Michael and Thomas served in the late war as members of the 1st Connecticut, the former enlisting in 1861, and the latter in 1862, their regiment being attached to the Army of the Potomac. Michael was shot dead near Stafford's Court House, Jan. 3, 1863. Thomas was in the service until the close of the war. He was taken prisoner at Snicker Gap, Va., sent to Belle Isle for four months, and then had a four months' experience of the horrors of Andersonville. After that he was exchanged, and he then fought under Phil Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley.

John Carver was reared on his father's farm in Limerick, and obtained a good common-school education. He remained at home until his father's death, when he made arrangements to migrate with his mother and the other members of the family to the United States. They went from Cork to Liverpool, where they embarked on the American-bound vessel "Constantine" in the spring of 1851, and after a voyage of five weeks and three days landed in New York City. Our subject proceeded to Shaftsbury, Vt., where he was employed for a year in the public works. He then went to Connecticut, and was engaged in the Baltic public works for the space of three years, and subsequently did mason work for a year. In 1856 he moved to Greenville, Conn., taking the family with him. He engaged in the iron works, spring and axle making, in that place until the spring of 1869. He then came to this State by rail, and located in Dawson, in Richardson County. He bought eighty acres of land in that place, improved it well, and continued farming there until 1874. In that year he took up his residence in Pawnee County, buying 160 acres of land on section 2, in Miles Precinct. He made many valuable improvements, and conducted agriculture there until 1880. He then bought his present

place, comprising 160 acres on section 11 of Miles Precinct. The land was at the time wild prairie, and our subject has labored hard to bring about the many improvements that make it one of the most valuable farms in the neighborhood. It has an ample supply of springs and wells, and is well fenced in hedge and wire. There is a fine orchard on the place of 160 choice fruit trees, and sixty acres of natural timber along the banks of Ball's Branch. The land is naturally adapted to stock-raising, and our subject besides breeding cattle, buys and feeds them. His herd comprises 130 head of fine grades, and he has twelve head of blooded Clydes and Normans, using three teams in working his farm, and he has a number of fine graded Poland-China hogs. Mr. Carver is also much interested in raising corn. He has an ample supply of substantial farm buildings, and everything about the place is in good order.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Mary Casey took place June 6, 1866. She was born in Limerick, Ireland. Their marriage has been blessed to them by the birth of seven children, five of whom are living, namely: Patrick, Annie, Teressa, Hannah and Michael. Patrick is farming 160 acres of land in Plum Creek Precinct. Annie married Michael Murphey, a farmer of Dawson, this State. The remaining children are at home. The whole family are esteemed members of the Catholic Church, and were active in building the church. Our subject gave more than anyone else toward its erection, and when the structure fell down he was very active in soliciting subscriptions to repair it, and as Trustee of the church he is always laboring for its best interests.

Mr. Carver is as patriotic and loyal a citizen of these United States as if he were native-born, and he takes great delight in watching the progress of the country. In him the Republican party has one of its most intelligent and independent supporters, as he votes only for those men whom he thinks thoroughly fitted for office, and on such grounds he voted for Gen. Harrison for President. He is influential in party councils and has been a delegate to County Conventions. Mr. Carver's sensible advice and clear common sense have often been used to advantage in the administration of public

affairs, and he has often been called to fill responsible offices. While a resident of Richardson County he served two terms as Justice of the Peace, and since coming to Miles Precinct he has been Assessor of the precinct for two terms, a member of the School Board, and has been Supervisor four terms.



**J**ACOB T. BROWN. Among the solid representatives of the agricultural interests of Clay Precinct, no man stands higher than the subject of this sketch. His has been a career more than ordinarily successful, during which he has learned many valuable lessons, keeping his eyes open to what was going on around him in the world. He claims Ohio as his native State, having been born there, in Perry County, Jan. 20, 1811.

The parents of our subject were Joseph and Ann (Kelley) Brown. The paternal grandfather, William Brown, was a native of Delaware, where he was reared to man's estate, and married a lady a native of the same State. Later, after the decease of his wife, which occurred in her native State, he removed to Ohio. Grandfather Brown spent his last years in Muskingum County, Ohio, dying when about eighty-four years old.

The parents of our subject after their removal from Delaware were residents of Perry County, Ohio, the remainder of their lives. Joseph Brown, during the War of 1812, served as a drummer boy. The parental family included fourteen children, namely: William, James, Washington, Joseph; Jane, Mrs. William Dilts; Mary, who married Caleb Hitchcock, and is now deceased; Isaac; Noah; Sarah, Mrs. William Blizzard, who with her husband died in middle life, leaving a family of eleven children; Andrew; Thomas, who died in youth; Elizabeth died in infancy; Jacob, our subject, who was the youngest, and an unnamed infant.

Mr. Brown left Ohio in the spring of 1885, coming to this county with his family. He had been married in Muskingum County, the Buckeye State, April 9, 1867, to Miss Mattie J., daughter of William and Amanda (Vickroy) Brown, who were natives of Maryland. This union resulted in the

birth of seven children, namely: Thomas O., Charles A., Eddie L., Herbert Earl, Foster, Beverly C. and George W., the latter of whom died when one year old. Mr. and Mrs. Brown are members in good standing of the United Brethren Church. They formerly belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which Mrs. Brown became a member at the age of eleven years. In this our subject was at one time a pillar, officiating as Steward, and filling positions of trust and responsibility. He is now a Steward and Class-Leader of the church to which he at present belongs. In political matters he is a lifelong Republican, and a man who keeps himself well posted upon matters of general interest.

The Brown homestead embraces 330 acres of improved land, lying on sections 10 and 15. With the exception of ten acres of timber on Turkey Creek, it is all enclosed with good fencing, and embellished with a substantial set of frame buildings. It is largely devoted to stock-raising, and Mr. Brown also has attained quite a reputation as a buyer and shipper, sending away usually a carload of cattle each year, and sometimes two. He contemplates enlarging his capacities for this industry in the near future.

For a period of seventeen years prior to his settlement in Nebraska Mr. Brown dealt largely in stoneware, purchasing of manufacturers and selling to retail dealers throughout Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Kentucky and Missouri. The knowledge which he thus obtained of general business has been invaluable to him in all his later transactions. He was regarded as one of the best salesmen in the regions over which he traveled, and being always courteous and prompt to meet his obligations found abundance of friends wherever he went. He finds, however, more pleasure in the peaceful pursuits of agriculture than in the bustling channels of trade.

After the outbreak of the Civil War Mr. Brown enlisted in Company H, 90th Ohio Infantry, under command of Col. N. F. Hitchcock, now of Sterling, Johnson County, this State. During his service under the old hero he entertained for him a warm admiration, being with him the entire term of his army experience. Col. Hitchcock was a valiant offi-



cer, and one who possessed in a marked degree the esteem and admiration of his subordinates. Of our subject he made a friend and companion, and Mr. Brown looks upon that epoch in his life, notwithstanding its privations and hardships, as one of his pleasantest recollections. He was one of the comparatively small number whose consciousness of the faithful performance of duty was a satisfactory reward, and he may be classed among heroes whose history will never be fully recorded.

The 90th Ohio was equipped and ready for service in the spring of 1862. It took part in many of the most important engagements of the war, and Mr. Brown was a participant in many a scene of deadly conflict, having been in every battle in which his regiment participated. They were at Richmond, Ky., and from Louisville took part in the march undertaken to drive the rebel Gen. Bragg from the State. They participated in the bloody battle at Perrysville, and shortly after in the fight at Stone River. After this they followed Bragg all the way to Chattanooga. They also took part in the great Atlanta campaign until the fall of that city, and then they were ordered back to Nashville, where they had an engagement with Hood, whom they defeated, and pursued into Georgia. Then Hood decamped for the Carolinas. Col. Hitchcock gathered together what was left of his gallant command, and marched to the French Broad River, where they were in camp until after Lee's surrender. The command was finally mustered out in June, 1865. In all of the arduous marches and bloody battles in which this gallant regiment was engaged Mr. Brown did his duty as a patriotic soldier should, and retired from the service with a record of which he and his descendants may justly be proud.



**W**ILLIAM A. GRIFFING, contractor and builder in stone and brick work, and also the owner of a good farm of 120 acres in Sheridan Precinct, takes a leading position among the intelligent, enterprising and prosperous business men of Pawnee County. He is pleasantly located in the village of Table Rock, in a neat and

convenient brick house of his own construction. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Wayne County, Aug. 6, 1852. His father, the Hon. George L. Griffing, was born Nov. 27, 1824, in Luzerne County, Pa., and there spent his early years. He received a substantial education in the common schools, and was subsequently fitted for the ministry. He was a licentiate of the Wyoming Conference, and preached for a number of years in the Methodist Episcopal denomination. His health becoming impaired, he was obliged to relinquish his professional duties, and seek a milder climate. Accordingly in 1857 he came with his family to Nebraska, arriving June 10, and spent the night with Mr. Ferguson, the first man who came into Pawnee County. Mr. Griffing bought a pre-emption right, half a mile south of the old village of Table Rock, on which stood a log cabin, into which he moved with his family. There were timber, stone and water on the land, the three things first looked for by new settlers, and only a few furrows had been turned. The nearest market was Brownville, the nearest mill on the opposite side of the Missouri River, and the nearest post-office Table Rock, that having been the first established in the county.

On arriving here Mr. Griffing laid in a large stock of provisions, and, as game was abundant, was not obliged to go to the river the first year. The following spring he sowed a crop of wheat, the first ever sown in the county, doing the work with oxen. No schools had been established at that time, and he assisted in building the first school-house, which was of stone, and stood on the spot now occupied by the livery stable of Taylor & Beck, on Luzerne avenue. It was built under the supervision of Peter Foale, a mason, whose sketch appears on another page of this volume. Mr. Griffing soon after added a log house to the one already on his land.

When the Homestead Law was passed Mr. Griffing was one of the first men in the county to take advantage of it. He and his mother-in-law took up a half-section of land in Clear Creek Precinct, on sections 16 and 23, moving there soon after. Mr. Griffing at once commenced the improvement of his homestead, putting out an orchard and

groves of timber, which grew rapidly, and now yield an abundance of timber and plenty of walnuts, black walnuts and acorns. He made all of the improvements usually made by an energetic and enterprising farmer, having erected a commodious house, good out-buildings and a fine barn, as good as any now standing in the county. He carried on general farming on an extensive scale, having at the time of his death one of the finest herds of Durhams in the county, breeding and raising them himself, with special reference to the needs of a good dairy. He was one of the most influential and prominent of the early pioneers of Pawnee County, and a man whom his fellow-citizens delighted to honor. He was elected to all the local offices of the precinct, and, serving with acceptance to all, was afterward sent to represent his district in the State Legislature, where he displayed excellent judgment and much wisdom in council. In 1875 he was appointed delegate to the Constitutional Convention at Lincoln. His untiring energy, intellectual ability and shrewd sense were of inestimable value to himself in developing and managing his property, as well as of material assistance in aiding the growth of the town, as is shown by the fact that the \$800 which was his sole capital on coming here was added to and increased, so that at the time of his death, Aug. 17, 1886, he left a comfortable competence to his family. It is needless to say that he was held in the highest respect and esteem by all, and his name will be revered and honored for generations to come.

Mr. George L. Griffing was twice married. His first wife, mother of our subject, was Miss Axie Andrews, daughter of Adnal Andrews. She was also a native of Luzerne County, Pa. She was a woman of true Christian character, and died in October, 1857, soon after coming here. To her and her husband were born five children, namely: Maria E., now Mrs. Linn, of Table Rock; Mary H., now Mrs. Mitchell, of Clear Creek Precinct; William A., and Olin W., of whom see sketch on another page of this volume; one died young. The maiden name of Mr. Griffing's second wife was Harriet Smith, and she was a native of London, and of that union there were also five children.

Mrs. Griffing did not live many years after her marriage, dying in 1878.

The subject of our sketch when five years of age came with his parents to Nebraska, and has since been a resident of Pawnee County. He received his education in Table Rock, attending the first school, which was a private one taught by his aunt, Lydia Griffing, in a log house three-fourths of a mile southwest of Table Rock. At the age of seventeen, desiring to put himself on an independent footing with the world, our subject went to work on his own account, and four years later learned the plasterer's trade. He engaged in that work in this vicinity, and has since added the business of contractor in brick and stone. He has labored successfully, accumulating quite a sum of money, a part of which he has invested in real estate, his first purchase having been eighty acres of land in Clear Creek Precinct. His first improvement was the erection of a stone house, and soon after its completion he married, and settled there with his bride, carrying on the farm and also working at his trade. Mr. Griffing has supervised the construction of many of the large stone and brick buildings of Nebraska, having taken the contract for much of the building done the first year of the boom in Hastings, and in the ensuing year having put up many buildings in Kearney Junction, on the Union Pacific Railway. He afterward did a good deal of contract work in Saline County, having DeWitt as headquarters, and subsequently erected several brick buildings in Pawnee County, among others, building in the season of 1886-87, a commodious brick residence for himself in Table Rock Village, which he and his family are now occupying. Our subject is much interested in the breeding of horses, and is an excellent judge and admirer of a fine horse. He owns a magnificent, imported Clydesdale stallion, one of the best in the county, registered No. 5,803, and besides that has other registered Clydesdales. He has also some beautiful Hambletonian stock, and has a one-half interest in the best pony in the State, which is forty-three inches high and weighs 635 pounds. Mr. Griffing intends to make horse breeding a specialty, and will devote himself to that business exclusively.

Our subject was married, Dec. 10, 1875, to Miss



Alva A. Baker, who was born in Woodford County, Ill., Dec. 10, 1858. She is a daughter of George W. Baker, who is a native of Ohio, and during his boyhood a near neighbor and playmate of U. S. Grant. Quite a thrilling episode in the lives of the two boys occurred one day while they were playing near the mill pond of old Mr. Grant. They used to attempt to walk on the water by the use of distended bladders attached to their feet, and at one time Ulysses S., getting beyond his depth, lost his balance, and, his feet going up and his head down, he floated toward the mill race. Fortunately Mr. Baker was near, and, going to his assistance, rescued him from drowning, thus preserving for the time of his country's need one who became one of the most famed and honored of all the nation's citizens. Mr. Baker was a farmer and carpenter by occupation, and after remaining in his native State some years moved to Illinois, thence to Nebraska, and is now living fifty miles north of Beatrice. The union of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of three interesting children: Lillian A., born May 25, 1878; Mary, Jan. 30, 1880; and Frank Raymond, born in 1883.

Mr. Griffing occupies an important position among the intelligent, enterprising business men of Pawnee County, and both he and his estimable wife are people of high consideration in this community, and are valued members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Our subject belongs to the I. O. O. F., and in politics affiliates with the Republican party.



**J**OSIAH NESBITT. In the subject of this record we have one of the rising men of Mission Creek Precinct, who is comparatively young in years, and is bound to make his mark in the community. He owns a finely cultivated farm of 160 acres on section 19, with good improvements, and is each year adding something to the value and beauty of his property. As a man and a citizen he is one whom it is good to meet, being a gentleman to the manner born, courteous and agreeable, and one who impresses

the stranger at once with his innate goodness of heart, and his unimpeachable moral worth. It is such men as he to whom the community is indebted for its thrift, intelligence and education, and a few years hence his friends predict he will be, if he is not already, one of the leading men of his precinct, respected not only for his public spirit and liberality, but as one who, by his enterprise and industry, has contributed in all respects to the growth and prosperity of this part of the county.

Mr. Nesbitt is essentially a Western man, having been born in Hanover, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., Aug. 17, 1855. He was reared at the country home of his parents, becoming familiar with agricultural pursuits, and acquiring his first book knowledge in the district school. Later he entered the German-English College, at Galena, Ill., of which he was a student one year, and from there repaired to Warren County, entering Monmouth College and taking the select course. In the spring of 1878 he came to this county, rented a farm one year, and in the meantime purchased 160 acres of land which constitutes his present homestead. Its present condition indicates the industry and persistence with which he has labored. He commenced at first principles, there being upon it no improvements whatever. He put up a residence, into which he removed in the spring of 1879, has planted a large amount of hedge, together with fruit and forest trees, and is now giving his attention largely to the raising of cattle and swine. Of these he keeps only good grades, and his farm is admirably adapted to this industry, being supplied with running water, and furnishing fine pasturage.

After laying the foundation for his future home, Mr. Nesbitt returned to Hanover, Ill., and was married, Jan. 28, 1879, to Miss Orpha R., daughter of George and Margaret (Funston) Robinson. The parents of Mrs. Nesbitt were both natives of County Donegal, Ireland. Her paternal grandfather, David Robinson, also a native of Ireland, spent his entire life upon his native soil. On the mother's side Grandfather James Funston emigrated from Ireland to America when a young man, and located in Galena, Jo Daviess Co., Ill., where he engaged in general merchandising a number of years. He finally sought the Pacific Slope, and died in California.

George Robinson came to America when a lad of eleven years, and for a time was employed as a clerk in the city of Philadelphia. He was married in Galena, and later engaged in farming and stock-raising, becoming very successful and the owner of a good property. He died in 1883, at the age of sixty-two years, leaving a fine farm of 240 acres, with other property. The mother is still living, making her home in Hanover, Ill., and is now sixty-seven years old. Mr. Robinson was a member in good standing of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in which he officiated as Steward, and in political matters affiliated with the Republican party, of whose principles he was a very warm advocate. They were the parents of seven children, namely: James, Orpha R., William F., Lincoln, Ella, Joseph A and Bertha.

Mrs. Nesbitt was, like her husband, born in Hanover, Ill., and of their union there are two interesting boys, George L. and Archie L. Mr. N. is a member of the United Presbyterian Church, attending services at Mission Creek. Mrs. Nesbitt belongs to the Methodist Church at Liberty. Our subject maintains a warm interest in the temperance question, and some time since allied himself with the Prohibitionists, by whom he is often sent as a delegate to the County and State Conventions. He is very popular with his party, and in 1888 was made their candidate for the State Legislature. Although expecting defeat, he ran ahead of his ticket, making a very flattering showing.

The parents of our subject were John and Jane (Moffett) Nesbitt, natives of County Monaghan, Ireland, and who came to the United States after their marriage, which took place in 1845. The paternal grandfather spent his entire life in his native Ireland, engaged in farming pursuits. On the mother's side, Grandfather James Moffett was also an Irish farmer, the owner of a large estate, and he too closed his eyes on his native soil. John Nesbitt, upon coming to America, located near Galena, in Jo Daviess County, taking up 160 acres of Government land, which was mostly covered with forest. He cleared the greater part of it, and engaged considerably in stock-raising during the latter years of his residence in Illinois. He invested his spare capital in additional land, and finally be-

came the owner of 340 acres, all of which he brought to a good state of cultivation. He was recognized as one of the most valued citizens of his community, and was elected to the various local offices.

In 1884 the elder Nesbitt disposed of his interests in Northern Illinois, and coming to this county, purchased land adjoining the limits of Pawnee City. He has three farms in Mission Creek Precinct, together with other valuable real estate, but some time since retired from the active labors of farm life, and is engaged in money loaning, having his residence in Pawnee City. He is now seventy-two years old, and the mother sixty-six. He votes the straight Republican ticket, and is an active member of the United Presbyterian Church, in which he has officiated as Elder a period of thirty years. The parental family included eleven children, nine of whom are living. These are named respectively: Agnes, Maggie, R. J., John D., Helen, Josiah, Lizzie, Adeline and Mary E.



**J**OSEPH HAZELS. The sturdy Scotch element is amply apparent in the character of this highly esteemed farmer of Pawnee Precinct, who owns and occupies a fine body of its land. He makes a specialty of Galloway cattle and Poland-China swine, and from a modest beginning has arisen to an enviable position, socially and financially.

A native of Forfarshire, Scotland, our subject was born June 16, 1848, and was the youngest of four sons, the offspring of David H. and Elizabeth (Thorn) Hazels, who were natives of the same shire as their son, and who emigrated to America in 1871, coming directly to this county. Joseph, on leaving his native land, at the age of eighteen, went first to South America, and sojourned two years in the Argentine Republic. Thence he sailed from Buenos Ayres to New York City, and a few weeks later we find him in this county. He was for two and one-half years employed as clerk by Alexander Campbell, of Marysville, Marshall Co., Kan. At the expiration of this time he returned to Pawnee City,



and engaged in mercantile business on his own account, associating himself with his brother, David, Jr., and carrying a general stock. The firm was D. & J. Hazels. They operated together twelve months, when our subject purchased the interest of his brother and conducted the business alone some years.

Mr. Hazels now selling out retired to his farm, one and one-half miles northeast of Pawnee City. He had eighty acres, finely improved, with a substantial residence, a good barn and the other necessary out-buildings. He sold this property in 1887 for \$5,000, but regretting the transaction succeeded in buying it back in the spring of 1888. He is now devoting his attention to his farming and live-stock interests, with marked success, and has fine grades of cattle.

In the fall of 1875 Mr. Hazels assumed matrimonial ties, being wedded September 30 of that year to Miss Lula J., daughter of Robert and Jane Andrews, of this county. Mrs. Hazels was born in Iowa, and came with her parents to Nebraska. Our subject and his estimable wife have five children, namely: Edna, G. A., Joseph Thorn, David L. and a babe unnamed. Politically, Mr. Hazels votes independently, and he takes a genuine interest in those enterprises calculated for the advancement of his county, being always willing to lend his aid to any worthy scheme having that object in view.



**H**UGH W. ROBB is closely identified with the industrial and agricultural interests of Pawnee County. He owns a farm of seventy-seven acres of land of unsurpassed fertility, finely located on section 12, Miles Precinct. He rents his place, however, while he devotes his time exclusively to his business as a blacksmith, which he has established in the village of Violet. He is a man of large, sound common sense, forceful character, exemplary habits, and unswerving rectitude of purpose, which traits, although he has been a resident of this community but a short time, have won him the trust and full respect of the people with whom he associates.

Our subject is derived from a sterling ancestry.

His paternal great-grandfather, a native of Ireland, emigrating to this country, located in Virginia, and there became a well-to-do planter. His brother, Col. Robb, was with the first President Harrison at the famous battle of Tippecanoe. The Rev. Hugh W. Robb, also son of the Virginia planter, was born in that State, and when he attained manhood began life as a farmer. At about the age of thirty-five he turned his attention to the ministry, and being sent to Kentucky on missionary work, became one of the first settlers of that State. Besides devoting himself to his mission, he paid some attention to farming. He continued in the ministry of the Presbyterian faith until his death at the venerable age of eighty-seven years. The maternal grandfather of our subject was born in Scotland, and after coming to America he located in Shawneetown, Ill., where he set himself up in business at his trade of cabinet-maker, and ran a furniture establishment, accumulating much wealth before his death. He was a Lutheran in his religious belief.

Benjamin Robb, the father of our subject, was born in Kentucky near the city of Frankfort. He was reared in that State to the life of a farmer. He was married in Shawneetown, Ill., to Martha Nicholson, a native of that place. After marriage Mr. Robb returned to Kentucky, and continued agricultural pursuits there for some years, clearing a farm from the wilderness. In 1834, like other Kentucky pioneers, he crossed the country to Missouri, and became a pioneer of that State. He cleared a farm in Marion County, Mo., of which he was one of the first settlers. He later disposed of his 160-acre tract of land in that part of Missouri, and going to Shelby County, that State, improved another 160-acre farm. He continued there until about 1859, when he sold his property there, and retracing his steps eastward as far as Illinois, bought a farm in Adams County, and for many years managed it very profitably.

Mr. Robb is still living on the old homestead with one of his sons, and has attained the advanced age of eighty-six years. His wife died in 1881, having rounded out fifty-nine years. He has been quite prominent in life in years past, and while in Missouri served as Justice of the Peace, and as Sheriff. In his early days he was a Whig and an ardent ad-

vocate of the abolition of slavery. He joined the Republican party at its formation, and has ever since voted for its candidates. He is a member of the Baptist Church, and has been Steward of the society. To him and his wife were born twelve children, as follows: Julia A. (deceased), Hugh W., Nancy J., Franklin M., Thomas J., Newton J. (deceased), James M., John H., Zach T., Benjamin F.; Martha J. (deceased) and Emma E. The family was well represented in the late Civil War, and did heroic service on many a bloody battle-field. James and Newton were members of the 50th Illinois Regiment, and veteranized; Newton died at the close of the war; Thomas served through the entire war in the 3d Missouri Cavalry; Franklin was a member of the Missouri State Militia, and later joined the Missouri Volunteers; James was wounded five times at the battle of Pittsburg Landing; when in the heat of the fight he and his comrades, surrounded by the enemy, were attempting to cut their way out. Our subject was born in West Ely, Marion Co., Mo., on the 17th of January, 1836. He remained on his father's farm until he was sixteen years of age, obtaining such an education as was possible with the limited school advantages afforded by his native place. At the age mentioned he was apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade, serving four years, and gaining a thorough practical knowledge of the work. After that he went to Illinois and opened a blacksmith's shop in Adams County. Two years later he closed his business there and returned to Missouri, and erected a shop in Walnut Grove, Shelby County. In 1864 he enlisted in the Missouri State Militia, and was mustered into the army at Palmyra, in that State, and entered the service under Gen. Schofield. Our subject was in the battle at Kirksville, under O'Neal. The company to which he belonged was disbanded until called for, and our subject was discharged in the spring of 1865, having served creditably during his short military experience. After the war Mr. Robb went to Schuyler County, Ill., and once more engaged in his trade, opening a smithy at Pleasant View, and besides carrying on blacksmithing also engaged in agricultural pursuits. In 1872 he sought the still comparatively wild country of Nebraska with a team, with a view

of settling in this State. He found a suitable location in Franklin County, and took up 160 acres of Government land under the provisions of the Homestead Act, said tract lying near the town of Macon. He immediately went to work on it, and developed a fine farm, with many valuable improvements. He was one of the pioneers of Franklin County, and was one of the first to build a smithy there. He also made the first plow made west of Lincoln, Neb., in 1873. In 1880, renting his farm he moved into Franklin, put up a shop, and engaged in blacksmithing and also in the real-estate business. In the fall of 1882 Mr. Robb took a new departure, sold his property in Franklin County, took up his residence in Pawnee City, and bought Shackley's town property, and forming a partnership with H. Goodale in the foundry business, continued with him three years. He then sold his interest in that business, and in partnership with J. H. Irons established the city blacksmith-shop. In March, 1888, Mr. Robb bought his present farm of seventy-seven acres, three of which are cut off by the Burlington & Missouri River Railroad. He soon after erected his present smithy in this village, and has by good workmanship and prompt attention to customers worked up quite a large trade. His farm is well watered by Ball's Branch, and there is plenty of native timber on it, groves and a fine orchard. Mr. Robb owns a lot and residence in Pawnee City, besides other valuable property.

Mr. Robb has been twice married, the first time in Clayton, Ill., in 1857, to Miss Mildred J. Tutt, a native of Kentucky. Of that union three children were born, namely: William B. F., James H. and Leodora A. William is a merchant in Franklin, Neb.; James is Principal of a school in Minden, Neb.; Leodora married Elmer Weston, a farmer of Franklin County. After a few years of a happy wedded life the first wife of our subject closed her eyes to the scenes of earth in 1867, while she was yet in life's prime. Our subject was married a second time, in Pleasant View, Ill., in 1868, Mrs. Minerva A. Powell becoming his wife. She is a daughter of Ebenezer Dimmick, and was born in Ohio. She had been previously married, and had two children by that marriage, Mary A. and Margaret Powell. The former is in Franklin, and the



latter at Ludell, Rawlins Co., Kan. By this marriage Mr. and Mrs. Robb have three children, as follows: Hugh W., who is studying law at Salem, Neb.; Ida M., a teacher in the Violet public schools, and Minnie E., who is dead.

By years of prudent industry, judicious economy and wise management, our subject has accumulated a comfortable property. He is a man whose truthfulness, conscientious dealings with his neighbors, and his sturdy self-respect have won in return the respect and consideration of his neighbors and all with whom he comes in contact. He is a man of strong religious convictions, and is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Violet, being Class-Leader, and has been Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He is an earnest advocate of prohibition, and has been a delegate to Prohibition County and State Conventions. Mr. Robb was Postmaster for three years while a resident of Macon. Here he is a member of the Board of Education, and is at present School Treasurer.



**J**AMES H. PURCELL. Among the prominent pioneers of Table Rock Precinct the subject of this sketch is numbered as one deserving of especial notice. He came to this section as early as 1860, and has proved a bright example of sturdy perseverance amid many difficulties. He began in life at the foot of the ladder, but is now numbered among the well-to-do business men of Pawnee County, being handsomely situated financially, and in the enjoyment of a splendid patronage as one of the largest hardware merchants of Table Rock. He also owns a large extent of land, embracing 470 acres, the greater part lying on sections 28 and 29. He also has a good residence in town, and in his hardware operations carries a large and well-selected stock of goods. He is widely and favorably known to the people of this section, among whom he has lived an upright and honorable life for a period of nearly thirty years.

Mr. Purcell came to Nebraska Oct. 7, 1860, settling first in Richardson County; he afterward came to Pawnee County and purchased 160 acres of land.

Thirty acres of this had been broken, but otherwise it was in an uncultivated condition. After putting in his first crops he commenced the planting of trees, devoting ten acres to this purpose, and the sprouts which he then set in the ground would now make sawlogs one and a half feet in diameter. He commenced his farm operations in Nebraska with an ox-team, and his first dwelling was a small frame house covered with clapboards and sod. This he occupied with his little family for a period of six years before he was able to build a better one. In the meantime he placed the whole of his land under the plow, and besides the forest trees already referred to, put out a fruit orchard, with apples, peaches and the smaller varieties. He in due time had a snug little homestead, but sold it in 1864, and coming to this county purchased the first 160 acres of his present farm.

The homestead proper lies on section 28, and this, with the exception of thirty acres, was at the time of purchase like the other, an uncultivated tract of land. Mr. Purcell proceeded as before to the opening up of a farm, setting out fruit and shade trees, and putting up the necessary buildings. He has a good apple orchard. He also planted hedge around the most of the farm, a species of fence which aids largely in the embellishment of the landscape. The Purcell farm is the admiration of all observers who pass through this part of the country, and reflects great credit upon the energy and industry of the proprietor. The residence is a tasteful and commodious frame structure, in gothic style of architecture, with solid stone foundations and a fine cellar. It is fully as pleasant within as without, being neatly and tastefully furnished, and a dwelling whose inmates are surrounded by all the comforts of life. In his farm labors Mr. Purcell, during the later years of his residence in the country, devoted his attention largely to the breeding of fine stock, including Durham, Ayrshire and Jersey cattle, usually having at the head of his herd a full-blooded animal.

Mr. Purcell came to Nebraska equipped with only the capital of his strong hands and courageous heart, together with the faithful and efficient wife and helpmate, who has labored cheerfully by his side in the accumulation of their property.

Many are the tales which they can tell of hardship and privation. His first trading-post was at Brownville, on the Missouri River miles away, to which he was compelled to repair with an ox-team, the round trip consuming two or three days. For several seasons his corn and pork were transported to market in this manner, and while there he would receive for the latter only one and one-half to two cents per pound dressed, and for his corn ten to twelve and one-half cents per bushel. On the other hand, upon the disbursement of the scant amount of money which he could thus obtain, he was obliged to pay a high price for the necessary provisions. Sugar was a luxury for which the pioneers were obliged to pay from eighteen to twenty cents per pound. This commodity was used very sparingly or not at all. The small quantities of provisions they were enabled to buy with their little capital would be soon consumed, and the tedious trip repeated.

In this way our subject labored under many difficulties four or five years, and when he began to cherish a hope of better days, along came the grasshoppers and put the pioneer farmer back another two years. Those days of discouragement and trouble, however, finally passed away, and Mr. Purcell has had reason to rejoice that he was enabled to persevere and outlive the storm. His later success has repaid him for what he then endured. He is in the enjoyment of a fine property, and has little need to ask for more. Notwithstanding the arduous labors connected with the opening up of his farm, and the almost endless task of transforming it into productive fields, he at the same time did not confine himself selfishly to his own interests, but assisted in the various enterprises brought forward from time to time to develop the county, such as building bridges, laying out roads, organizing school districts and the various other matters which demanded attention as the country became settled up. Upon his arrival here there was not even a road track from his house to Brownville, only a faint trail which at times he had difficulty in following. Wild game abounded up to 1873. Table Rock Precinct was then all in one school district, and the children received their early education at Table Rock.

Mr. Purcell has always been an earnest supporter of Republican principles, and has carefully avoided becoming an office-holder, with the exception of serving a brief time as School Director. He is a man of more than ordinary mental ability—one who keeps himself well posted upon current events. In his business relations he is highly spoken of as a man of strictest integrity.

Mr. Purcell was born in Jackson County, Tenn., Feb. 11, 1832, and lived there until a youth of fifteen years. He then removed with his parents to Christian County, Ky., and later to Perry, Ill., where he completed a good practical education. Later he was employed on a farm in the Prairie State, and there also met the lady who was destined to become his wife, Miss Margaret Lane, and they were married in Perry County, Ill., March 16, 1860. Of this union there were born four children, all of whom are living, namely: Willard W., Albert J., Della and Milan. The two younger are at home with their parents. Willard married Miss Minnie Ball, and operates the old homestead; they have two children. Albert married Miss Ida Stewart, and they have one child, a daughter Maude. This son is the partner of his father in the hardware trade, and although a young man, has evinced admirable business qualifications.

Mrs. Margaret Purcell was born in Perry County, Ill., where she lived until her marriage. Her father, C. H. Lane, was a native of Tennessee, and was a practicing physician for many years; he is still living, making his home in Jackson County, Ill.

James J. Purcell, the father of our subject, was a native of Jackson County, Tenn., and married Miss Rebecca Short, who was also born in that State. They became the parents of eight children, all of whom lived to mature years. The family removed first to Kentucky, then to Illinois, and finally to Nebraska, prior to the time James H. took up land in Richardson County. The father also secured land in Richardson County, in Long Branch Precinct, which he occupied for a time, then sold and purchased on section 21, in Table Rock. The latter he improved into a good farm, and lived upon it until resting from his earthly labors. The mother of our subject had died in Illinois, and Mr. Purcell



was married a second time. The paternal grandfather, James Purcell, was a native of Germany, and upon coming to the United States early in manhood settled in Tennessee, where he spent the remainder of his life.



**W**ILLIAM B. BULL, Mayor of Pawnee City, is a man who, wherever he has been, has most decidedly left his mark. Intelligent, straightforward and business-like, his birth took place in the town of Amity, Madison Co., Ohio, Aug. 31, 1828. His early years were comparatively uneventful, spent principally upon a farm in Franklin County, and pursuing his studies in the common schools. As a youth he was ambitious of advancement, and we find him later a student of the Young Men's Seminary in Westerville; upon leaving this he entered a select school in the city of Columbus.

When a young man of twenty-two years Mr. Bull started for the Pacific Slope, and sojourned in California a period of two years, engaged in mining. At the expiration of this time, returning home, he was engaged as clerk in a store a year, and in 1854 migrated to Livingston County, Ill., and settled upon a farm, which he conducted a period of fourteen years. Later he was connected with a hardware store at Fairbury, Ill., two years, and in 1870 decided to cast his lot with the people of Nebraska.

Upon coming to this county Mr. Bull settled on a farm seven miles north of Pawnee City, where he operated twelve years. Then, abandoning agricultural pursuits, he changed his residence to Pawnee City, where he has since resided, retired from active labor. He has large interests in a cattle ranch in Montana, and other business resources which yield him a handsome income.

There were born to Alanson and Hannah (Leonard) Bull, the parents of our subject, eight children, of whom William B. was the third of the family. His father was born in Manchester, Vt., in 1798, and the mother in Springfield, Mass., in 1800. Both were of English ancestry, and removed from New England at an early date, settling

in Franklin County, Ohio, while it was probably the abode of bears, wolves and other wild animals. Alanson Bull was one of the solid farmers of Franklin County, and lived there until the summer of 1845, when the family all removed to Columbus, where the death of the father took place in 1858. The mother survived her husband many years, her death taking place in 1884, at Columbus, Ohio, when she was quite aged.

The spring of 1855 witnessed the marriage of our subject with Miss Sarah H. Pool, in Matamora, Woodford Co., Ill. Mrs. Bull was born in New Hampshire, in February, 1838, and is the daughter of H. A. and Miranda Pool, who are now deceased. Six children came to the fireside of Mr. and Mrs. Bull, and were named respectively: Charles S., Horace H., May A., Mira M., Hiram A. and Leonard N. They are residents mostly of Nebraska. Mr. Bull, while a resident of Livingston County, Ill., served as a Commissioner two years, and Township Supervisor one year. He was elected to his present office in the spring of 1888, on the Republican ticket, his sympathies being decidedly in favor of the principles of this party. During the Civil War he distinguished himself as an opponent of slavery, and no man rejoiced more than he at the emancipation of the colored race. He represents a goodly amount of real estate, having two farms in this county, one mostly devoted to pasture and one lying adjacent to the city limits. They comprise together 960 acres of valuable land.



**A**E. BAKER. We find this gentleman finely situated at a pleasant country home on section 8, in West Branch Precinct, where he owns and operates 120 acres of good land. Beginning with the early events of his life we find that he was born in Boston Township, Washington Co., Ohio, Feb. 25, 1828, and when a lad six years of age removed with his parents to Pike County, Ill. There he grew to man's estate with limited educational advantages, and learned the cooper's trade, at which he worked a number of years, and until 1851. He was then engaged in farming one year, at the expiration of which time

he resumed work at his trade, remaining in Pike County until 1857. Then changing his residence to Grundy County, that State, he rented a tract of land, and engaged in agricultural pursuits until after the outbreak of the Civil War.

On the 1st of August, 1862, Mr. Baker enlisted as a Union soldier in the 127th Illinois Infantry, which became a part of the 2d Brigade, 2d Division, 15th Army Corps, and was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee under Gen. Sherman. Mr. Baker and his comrades were mustered into service at Chicago, Aug. 13, 1862, and soon afterward proceeded South, meeting the enemy in battle at Vicksburg, Chickasaw Bayou and Arkansas Post; then returned to Young's Point, and marched down the west side of the river, which they crossed at Ft. Hudson, and afterward were in the battle at Champion Hills, in the rear of Vicksburg, besides several other minor engagements, before the general siege of Vicksburg, where they were for forty days skirmishing and fighting nearly every day. After the surrender the regiment went to Jackson, Miss., and after the fight at that place were sent to Camp Sherman. Next they scouted up the Big Black River for a few days; then by boat to Memphis, Tenn.; from there started by rail for Chattanooga, but the road having been destroyed by the rebels, they had to foot it part of the way. They were in the division that crossed the river on pontoons and captured the rebel pickets. At the battle of Mission Ridge, shortly after, our subject was with his company in four separate charges on that desperately fought field. From there they went to Knoxville, Tenn., following up Longstreet's army. This closed active operations, and they were in camp in Alabama for the winter. On the opening of the Atlanta campaign they were assigned to the army operating against that place under Sherman. During this time our subject was promoted to Corporal. They fought at Resaca, at Dallas, Chattahoochee, Kingston, Kenesaw Mountain, and were in the grand advance under McPherson. Our subject was now made Sergeant. After taking part in several other operations, as shown in the history of the war in that region, the army again fell back on Atlanta, and then started after Hood, returning again to the Chattahoochee River. Their next

great movement was the march to the sea, where the regiment took place in the engagement at Savannah. They were in Gen. Hazen's division in the attack on Ft. McAllister, and he was then detailed for duty at Gen. Howard's headquarters. Next he went with his company to Beaufort, S. C., their objective point being Goldsboro, N. C.

In the engagement at Columbia the day following Mr. Baker was taken ill and removed in ambulance to the regimental hospital at Goldsboro. Thence he was sent to Beaufort, N. C., where he was confined from the 9th of April until June, and was then obliged to accept an honorable discharge. He now returned to Grundy County, Ill., where he resumed the farming operations which had been interrupted by the war, remaining there until the spring of 1868. Soon afterward we find him in this county, to which he came overland with teams, crossing the Mississippi at New Boston, the Missouri at Brownville, and occupying three weeks in making the journey. He homesteaded 120 acres of land on section 8, in West Branch Precinct, being one of its first settlers.

Mr. Baker began breaking the soil and effecting improvements as rapidly as possible, setting out forest and fruit trees, including a fine grove and an orchard of five acres in extent. He was at times visited by the Indians, who pursued the old trail crossing his farm and running from the Indian reservation to White Cloud. The redskins never offered to molest him, with the exception of begging for something to eat or some trinket which they fancied. Mr. Baker enclosed a goodly portion of his land with hedge, and the first year put up a stone building. Of late years he has given special attention to the breeding of live stock, including horses, cattle and swine, keeping good grades of all these. Our subject was married in New Salem, Pike Co., Ill., Oct. 3, 1850, to Miss Mary J. Stitt, daughter of James and Margaret (Marshall) Stitt. Mr. Stitt was a native of Ireland, whence he emigrated to America with his parents when a child. The mother was born in Huntingdon County, Pa. The maternal grandfather was of English descent, but born in the State of Maryland. He learned wheelwrighting in his youth. Mr. Stitt learned the art of fulling, wool carding and weaving in his



native State, but upon his removal to the West purchased land, and thereafter engaged in agricultural pursuits. He settled in Pike County, Ill., in 1837, and lived there until 1850, when he sold his land and rented for four years. Later he removed to Grundy County, where his death took place about 1873. The mother moved to the town of Verona, where she lived until 1880, then came to Nebraska and made her home with her children until her death, which occurred in 1884, when she was seventy-seven years of age. Mr. Stitt was an Elder of the Presbyterian Church for a period of forty years.

Mrs. Baker was born at Shade Gap, Huntingdon Co., Pa., Aug. 17, 1831, and was six years old when her parents removed to Illinois. Of her union with our subject there have been born five children, namely: James, Margaret, Nina, Esia and Esta, twins. Mr. Baker, politically, votes the straight Republican ticket, and for many years has been connected with the School Board. He has been a member of the Republican Central Committee for the past ten years, and frequently served as a delegate to the various County Conventions. Mrs. Baker is a lady of great refinement, and well fitted to be the companion of such a man as her husband.

Alpheus Baker, the father of our subject, was born in Washington County, Ohio, and married Miss Mary Chapman, a native of the same. Benjamin Baker, the paternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of England, and emigrated to America with his parents when a boy, they settling among the earliest pioneers of Washington County, Ohio. He followed agriculture, and lived to be over eighty years of age. On the mother's side Grandfather Elisha Chapman was also a native of England, and crossed the Atlantic when a boy with his parents, in time to carry a musket in the Revolutionary War. He also lived to an advanced age, and spent his last years in Ohio. The father of our subject later served as Drum Major in the Ohio Militia. Upon approaching manhood he learned the cooper's trade, which he followed for a time after settling in Illinois. He spent his last years in Pike County, the latter State, dying at the age of seventy-four years. His wife had preceded him to

the better land, her death taking place in 1865, when she was sixty years old. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their children were named respectively: Sylvester E., Aurelius E., our subject; Clarissa, Darius, Malvina, Almira and Nancy. Darius, during the Civil War, enlisted in the 99th Illinois Infantry, which was assigned to the Army of the Tennessee, and participated in many of the important battles of the war.

ON. THEODORE W. PEPOON. The character of a man may usually be correctly ascertained from his home surroundings and his private life. In that of the subject of this sketch are displayed all the evidences of culture and refinement, and this, in connection with ample means, presents the picture of the ideal home. One noticeable feature is the literature to be met with at every turn. The current magazines, music and paintings add to the general effect. In the latter one daughter of the household excels, taking it up naturally, and having enjoyed the advantages of one of the art schools of Chicago.

Table Rock Precinct contains no more popular family than that of the subject of our sketch, who has been a resident of this county since 1869. The homestead proper comprises 240 acres of land lying on sections 7 and 8, the residence being on the latter. Mr. Pepoon came to Nebraska in 1869, purchasing the land which he still owns and occupies. Its condition then, however, was in strong contrast to that of the present, it being a raw, uncultivated tract, without fences, buildings, or any other attempt at improvement. Our pioneer made his home the first summer with his brother, J. B. Pepoon, and in the meantime put up the residence which he still occupies. It was then considered the best farmhouse in the county. It is two stories in height, convenient and well arranged, handsomely finished and furnished. The family took possession in the spring of 1870, and Mr. P. then gave his attention exclusively to the cultivation and improvement of his land. The material for his farm buildings was hauled from Brownville,

thirty miles away, which was also the nearest market for produce. In addition to sowing and reaping, Mr. Pepoon set out forest trees, evergreens, hedge and an apple orchard, together with the smaller fruits, plums, cherries, etc. As time passed on and his means permitted, he provided himself with improved machinery, and gradually added to his farming operations blooded stock, cattle, horses and swine. Of these he has of late years made a specialty, with excellent results.

A native of the Buckeye State, Mr. Pepoon was born in Painesville, Lake County, Aug. 29, 1836, and lived there until a lad of fourteen years. He then emigrated to Illinois with his parents and family, and completed a practical education in Mt. Carroll Seminary. Later he engaged as a teacher. His father's family were all well educated, many of them also engaging as teachers. Our subject was a resident of Jo Daviess County until 1869, and in the spring of that year crossed the Missouri and took up his residence in this county. He was married, Nov. 20, 1860, to Miss Susan Robinson. Four children have come to bless this union, namely: Percy, Alice, Lucy and Mary. The three daughters are living at home with their parents, making a most interesting and attractive group; the son is working at the printer's trade in Omaha. It is hardly necessary to add that they are being given first-class educational advantages. Upon the walls of their dwelling are some fine specimens of painting, mainly the work of Miss Alice, already spoken of. Miss Lucy at an early age evinced more than ordinary musical talent, and is now a fine performer on the piano, besides being a good alto singer.

Mrs. Susan (Robinson) Pepoon was born in Jo Daviess County, Ill., Sept. 15, 1840, and lived there until the time of her marriage, completing her education in Mt. Carroll Seminary. Her father, James Robinson, was a native of Virginia, whence he emigrated when a young man to the vicinity of the lead mines of Galena, Ill., and later was married to Miss Cassandra Morris, who with her parents journeyed all the way from Kentucky by wagons to Illinois, and were in Jo Daviess County at the time of the Black Hawk War. The young people commenced life together on a farm

in Jo Daviess County among its earliest pioneers, and reared a family of five children. Mr. Robinson, aside from his services as a soldier in the war above spoken of, carried on farming all his life. His death took place in January, 1846, at the old homestead in Jo Daviess County. The mother survived a number of years, dying in Falls City, in 1883, at the age of sixty-nine years, having been born in 1814.

Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, greatly to his regret Mr. Pepoon was not permitted, on account of home cares, to enter the ranks, much as he desired. In due time, however, some of his neighbors' sons who had gone to the front and returned disabled consented to look after his father's farm, and he then hastened to proffer his services in assisting to preserve the Union. He enlisted in the spring of 1865, in Company K, 96th Illinois Infantry, and was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland. We must not omit to say that four of his brothers were at the same time doing service as soldiers and patriots. The regiment of Mr. P. was assigned to the Army of the Cumberland, but he was not permitted to enter into any active engagement, the war then approaching its close, and this division of the troops being in camp at Nashville. He received his honorable discharge, and was mustered out in January, 1866. In the meantime he had seen sufficient of army life to know there were hardships and privations to be endured, and he underwent the fatigue of marching from Nashville, Tenn., to Texas.

Upon returning home from the army Mr. Pepoon resumed the various duties of farm life in Illinois, but not long afterward began to look longingly to the rich soil of Nebraska. He was soon recognized as a valued addition to the community of Table Rock Precinct, and since that time has been foremost in encouraging the enterprises calculated to advance the moral and financial welfare of the people. He has held the various township and school district offices, and in 1876 was nominated by the Republican party for the State Senate, elected, and served his term with great credit. He served on many important committees, namely: Those on Agriculture, Highways, Bridges, Library and Claims. He introduced the bill to reimburse



owners of stock which had been killed on railroads, and one compelling railroad companies to cleanse all stock cars after they had once been used. A man of excellent education, Mr. Pepoon from 1881 until 1885 was editor and publisher of the *Falls City Journal*, there being associated with his son.

The father of our subject, Silas Pepoon, was born in Connecticut, and spent his last years in Illinois. Percy P., the son of our subject, and a young man of more than ordinary business capacities, was born in Illinois, where his early education was conducted, and later he was a cadet at West Point. Upon returning home he became interested in the printing business, being connected with the *Falls City Journal* two years. Later he was the partner of W. W. Abby, and still owns a half-interest in the *Journal*. He married Beatrice Vigers. This section of Pawnee County is one really remarkable for the number of its cultured and educated men.



**C**HARLES W. CURRY is the son of a well-known pioneer farmer of Plum Creek Precinct, and has himself for some years been active in developing and sustaining the large agricultural interests of Pawnee County, he being an intelligent, wide-awake, progressive young man, who is considered one of the most prominent residents of the precinct.

Our subject was born near Platte City, Platte Co., Mo., Dec. 25, 1857. His father, George W. Curry, was born in Frederick County, Va., July 24, 1818, and his mother, whose maiden name was Ellen M. Rankin, was born in Morgan County, Va., March 20, 1820. Thomas Curry, grandfather of our subject, was born in Ireland, and later in life migrated to this country and located in Virginia, where he carried on his trade of weaver. He died in Frederick County, at the age of fifty years. Simeon Rankin, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a native of Virginia. He was a lumberman, and had a sawmill on Sleepy Creek, a tributary of the Potomac River. He was quite an extensive land-owner, and had 500 acres of land in

one body, and 160 acres adjacent to the 500, and at the time of his death. April 23, 1844, at the age of fifty-two years, was quite wealthy. He took part in the War of 1812, as a private. His father, William Rankin, was also a lumberman, and very wealthy. He was born in Virginia, near Swan Pond, in Jefferson County, and was the son of a gentleman who was a native of Ireland.

The father of our subject grew up on a farm in Virginia, and when a young man went to Pennsylvania, where he married. He engaged as a farmer in that State, owning a small farm. He later moved to Harrison County, Mo., and after farming there five years, took up his residence in Jefferson County, Ohio. A year later, in 1850, he moved still farther West, and until 1858 lived in Platte County, Mo. In that year he bought land, a tract of eighty acres, in Pottawatomie County, Kan., improved and cultivated it until May, 1862, when he enlisted in Company K, 23d Kansas Cavalry, and was mustered into the Army of the West, under Gen. Blunt, at Ft. Reilly. He took part in the battles of Pea Ridge and Boston Mountain, and was mustered out Feb. 26, 1863, on account of disability. He reenlisted in October, 1863, in Company G, 11th Kansas Cavalry, and did valiant and efficient service on many a hard-fought battle-field or in sudden skirmishes with the enemy, until the close of the war. He was honorably discharged at Leavenworth, Kan., May 15, 1865. While he was thus fighting his country's battles, his noble, patient wife was bravely caring for their family at home, managing their farm with great skill. They continued to live in Kansas until March, 1866, when they removed to Pawnee County, this State, bringing their family and household goods with a team.

Mr. Curry purchased 120 acres of bottom land, lying on Wolf Creek, in Plum Creek Precinct, and took up besides 160 acres of Government land on section 8, under the provisions of the Homestead Act. He was one of the first settlers in the precinct, and from that time until his death, Oct. 25, 1873, was busily engaged in making improvements on his land, cultivating it and raising stock. He was in all respects a good and loyal citizen, and his death took from this community one of its most valued members. Religiously, he was a member of

the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was his wife also, and politically, he was an earnest supporter of the Republican party. The mother of our subject, a highly esteemed lady, makes her home with him. The following is recorded of the eleven children born to her and her husband: William and Simeon T. are dead; Mary M. is in Louisville, Ky.; John F. is in Livingston County, Mo.; Phoebe J. is in Colorado; George N. is in Nebraska; Albert K. is dead; James E. is in Red Willow County, Neb.; Lucy F. is in Audubon County, Mo.; Charles W.; Louis W. is in Pawnee County. Simeon T. enlisted in the 2d Kansas Cavalry in 1862, was taken sick soon after, and died; John was a member of the 2d Kansas Cavalry from 1862 until the close of the war.

Charles Curry was eight years old when he accompanied his parents to their pioneer home in this precinct, and he grew to man's estate on his father's homestead, receiving a good common-school education. He remained with his mother until he was twenty-one, and then commenced life for himself, engaging in farming and stock-raising on his present place. He was so successful in his ventures that he was enabled to buy eighty acres of it, and also eighty more on the same section. On this he has made all the improvements, erecting a good house, barns, and other necessary farm buildings, planting groves and an orchard of 100 trees, fenced and hedged his land, which is well watered by Wolf Creek, and he has an abundant supply of native timber, some twelve acres. Mr. Curry is prosperously engaged in raising both grain and stock, and of the latter has some fine specimens, ten head of horses of fine breed, one-half Clyde, besides some handsome graded cattle.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Lucinda O. Clark took place in Osborne City, Osborne Co., Kan., Aug. 14, 1879, and of their happy union two children have been born—Lulu M. and Robert E. Mrs. Curry was born near Eagleville, Harrison Co., Mo., and is the daughter of John and Nancy M. (Burns) Clark, natives respectively of Ohio and Kentucky. Thomas Clark, grandfather of our subject, was of Irish descent, and a native of Ohio. He farmed in that State for many years, but subsequently moved to Bartholomew County, Ind., where he died. Mrs.

Curry's maternal grandfather, James Burns, a native of Kentucky, of Irish descent, became a resident of Bartholomew County, Ind., in the latter part of his life. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. Mrs. Curry's father was married in Indiana, and moving from there to Harrison County, Mo., took up a 160-acre tract of land and improved it. He continued farming there until 1878, when he moved to Rooks County, Kan., where he took up a half-section of land under the provisions of the Homestead Act. He and his wife still make their home there, he being now sixty-five years old, and she sixty-four years of age. They are people of sincere religious convictions, and are esteemed members of the Methodist Episcopal and Christian Churches respectively. They are the parents of eight children, namely: Emma, Martha J., Mary A., Lucinda O., Nancy M., Thomas R., James W. and Millard M.

Both as a citizen and as a man, our subject justly holds a high place in this community. In him every good cause finds a ready champion, and he endeavors earnestly to promote the moral, material and religious advancement of this precinct, where he has passed so many years of his life as boy and man. He does all in his power to further the educational facilities of the town, and acted as School Moderator for nine years, and is the present Treasurer of the School Board. Both he and his amiable wife are zealous members of the Christian Church at Pleasant Valley, and he has been Assistant Superintendent of the Sunday-school. He has served on the Grand Jury. In politics he warmly espouses the Union Labor party. He was at one time connected with the I. O. G. T.

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JOSEPH B. PARRISH. This well-known resident of Table Rock Precinct came to Nebraska first in the year 1858, staying here but a short time, however, and then going back to Pennsylvania, where he remained until 1867. In the latter year he returned to Nebraska, and settled on his present homestead on Clear Creek. This was all then raw prairie, and his labor for many years was devoted entirely to its



improvement. He planted many trees and set out a good orchard, and for several years before any other resident in the neighborhood had a good crop of peaches. Fruits of all kinds, indeed, he raised in abundance.

Our subject was born in Kingston, Pa., and in 1840 contracted his first marriage, his wife being Miss Ruth Griffing, a native of Canaan, Pa., and a daughter of William M. Griffing. For further particulars of her family history see sketch of Arthur Griffing, on another page. Of this union eight children were born, seven of whom accompanied their parents to this State, namely: Annette, Lucy, William, Mary, Clarence, Frank and Idelia. The one who died was named Joseph. The mother of this family lived but two years after coming to this State.

The second wife of Mr. Parrish was Mrs. Rosetta Brock, widow of John Brock, and who is now the oldest settler in this precinct. She first came to Nebraska in 1856, and with her parents settled on the farm which is now her home. Her early experiences on these prairies were of the roughest, for the first winter they lived in an unchinked log cabin, 14x14, without either floor or chimney. The winter proved an exceptionally stormy one, and, to make it still more lonely for the new-comers, there was not a neighbor living within many miles. Snows were frequent and heavy, and for weeks at a time the parents and their five children lived on hulled corn and such game as they could shoot. There was not then a store or post-office on this side of the Missouri River, and the life of the settler of that early day was certainly one of hardship. Since then, however, great changes have taken place, and her childhood's home, on which she is again living, has been transformed from a bleak prairie into a beautiful and fertile farm, with a handsome and commodious residence, and every modern convenience for comfort.

After some years our subject sold his farm on Clear Creek and bought, as already intimated, the farm which had been the home of his wife's father, and there he has ever since resided. He is a man who is highly respected in the precinct, and, although no politician, has been called upon by his neighbors to serve them in local office, having been Con-

stable and Road Supervisor. In politics he acts with the Republican party. He is really a self-made man, all that he now possesses being the result of his own labors. The only money he ever got without working for it was \$1 given to him by his grandmother when a boy.



**J**AMES KENNEDY, a respected and prosperous member of the farming community of Pawnee County, is profitably tilling the fertile acres of his valuable and well-improved farm on section 7, in the pleasant precinct of Miles. He inherited from a sturdy, industrious, honorable ancestry those sterling traits of character whereby he has made life a success. He is of mixed Celtic and Welsh descent. His paternal grandfather, James Kennedy, was born in Ireland, and when young came to America and settled in Pennsylvania. He carried on the trade of weaver in that State, and was there married, and soon afterward moved to Warren County, Ohio. He at first cast in his lot with the early pioneers of that county, but a short time afterward moved to Butler County, the same State, and became an early settler there. He cleared a farm from the timber, and there rounded out a good old age of eighty-four years, his death occurring April 15, 1845. He was a strong Presbyterian in his religious faith, belonging to the United Presbyterian Church. The maternal grandfather of our subject, whose name was Lowrey, was a native of Wales. He came to America when a young man, and was a pioneer in Scott County, Ky. He was there actively engaged as a farmer for several years, and his death occurred in his adopted State.

John Kennedy, the father of our subject, was born in Warren County, Ohio, but his parents removing to Butler County soon after he was reared in that county to man's estate, and was there married to Catharine Lowrey, who after the death of her parents had removed from her native Kentucky to Butler County, Ohio. Mr. Kennedy had become an adept at the carpenter's and also at the millwright's trades, and conducted both in his native State until 1835. In that year the fame of

the great agricultural facilities offered by the Territory of Iowa, which but a year or two before had been thrown open to settlement, attracted him to locate within its bounds and devote himself to farming. After his arrival in that part of the country he pre-empted a half-section of land in Louisa County, and began its improvement. In the fall of 1836 he returned to Ohio to secure the necessary school privileges for his children that the newer country of Iowa did not then offer, there being but few white settlers there at that time. He settled on the old homestead in his native State, and conducted farming there until 1853, when he sold all his property there and returned to his Iowa possessions. He engaged in agriculture there until 1857, when his useful and honorable life was brought to a close, at the age of sixty-three. His wife had preceded him in death many years before, dying while yet in life's prime, in September, 1835. Of their union seven children were born. Mr. Kennedy was a man of marked force of character, of an earnest, thoughtful mind, and of superior intelligence and integrity, and exerted a good influence among the pioneers of his adopted State.

The subject of this biographical notice was the second child born to his worthy parents, and his birth took place in their home near Monroe, Butler Co., Ohio, May 16, 1825. He was about ten years old when he accompanied his father to Iowa, and can still remember the incidents of the journey and the scenes in the strange, wild land beyond the Mississippi, still peopled by the Indians. Indeed, the growth not only of the States beyond the Father of Waters has taken place in his day, but that of the greater part of the Middle Western States, his native Ohio when he left it the first time still being in the hands of the pioneers, who had by no means reclaimed the soil from the dense primeval forest that once formed so important a feature in the landscape of the country, and the aboriginal settlers of the wilderness still lingered in their old haunts. It is within his recollection that many of the great changes have taken place that have made these States great and powerful commonwealths, that in the march of civilization the log cabin or dug-out has given place to the

commodious farmhouse or stately mansion, and that the rude appliances of pioneer life have given place to the modern conveniences and comforts. After remaining a year in Iowa the father of our subject, anxious that his children should be well educated, as before mentioned, returned with them to Ohio, and there our subject attended the common schools. He remained on the home farm until he was twenty-one, and he then rented land and carried on agriculture on his own account in his native State until 1851, when he returned to Iowa by boat, and with his brother began working his father's farm, which was situated one and one-half miles from the Mississippi. After the death of the father they continued to carry on the farm until 1882, the month of January, when our subject sold and moved to Pawnee City. He rented land near there the first year and then bought his present place, which then comprised 240 acres of land, partly improved, adjoining Burchard. In 1862 he sold eighty acres of it to W. J. Halderman, and retained 160 acres, which he has put in a fine state of cultivation. He has erected suitable farm buildings, dwelling-house, barn, etc., and has built up a home replete with all the comforts of modern life. He has set out a fine orchard and made many other improvements, so that his farm is classed among the most valuable in the precinct. He is chiefly engaged in grain raising, in which he has been very successful, and his granaries are filled after each harvest with grain of a superior quality. He was formerly much interested in raising blooded stock, but he has abandoned that branch of agriculture.

Mr. Kennedy was married to the good wife who has so faithfully co-operated with him in his work, in the month of December, 1858, in Louisa County, Iowa. Her maiden name was Nancy J. Herron, and she was born in Preble County, Ohio. The pleasant wedded life of our subject and his wife has been blessed to them by the birth of three children, as follows: John C., who has a farm in Sherman, Kan., which he took up as a homestead; Belle and Jennie, who are at home with their parents. Although Mr. Kennedy has been a resident of Miles Precinct but a few years, he is thoroughly identified with its best interests, and he and his



family are considered valuable members of this community. During his career as an agriculturist our subject has displayed commendable enterprise and forethought, and in all his dealings he has been straightforward and honest, and his neighbors and friends have ever placed the most implicit trust in him. Religiously, he and his wife are united with the United Presbyterian Church at Burchard, and cordially co-operate with their fellow-members in their efforts to elevate the moral tone of the community. Politically, Mr. Kennedy advocates the principles promulgated by the Republican party.



**W**ILLIAM WHITE takes a high stand for tact and financial ability among the young business men of Pawnee County, and in him the city of Table Rock, where he is engaged in the lumber and implement trade, finds one of her most useful and wide-awake citizens, who is doing much to extend her commercial interests. He is a native of Illinois, born in DuPage County, June 26, 1859. His father, Thomas White, was born in England, probably in Yorkshire. He was married, while a resident of England, to Miss Kittie Reason, a native of Yorkshire, and to them were born six children, three of whom are still living in Illinois. When about twenty-three years old he came to America, settling first in Canada. He subsequently went to Ohio, and from there to DuPage County, Ill., where he was employed at farming. Early in the sixties Mr. White moved with his family to Will County, in the same State, and bought a tract of wild prairie land, which he has since improved into one of the finest farms in that locality, and on it he built up one of the most attractive and comfortable homes in that county. In 1886, still retaining his Illinois property, Mr. White moved to Gage County, Neb., near Filley, onto a farm which he had purchased some years previously, and it is now one of the finest improved places in that county. He and his worthy wife are people of high consideration and standing in the community where they have gone to spend their declining years, their kindness and geniality having soon secured them

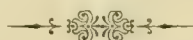
many warm friends. Mr. White has avoided office, preferring the quietude and comfort of his own fireside to the turmoil of public life, but he takes an interest in local and general affairs, and politically, is a stanch Republican, as is also his son, of whom we write.

Our subject was two or three years of age when his parents moved from the place of his birth to their pioneer home in Will County, Ill., and there he received a sound education, obtaining the preliminaries in the common schools, and then attending a High School and business college. After leaving college he remained at home on his father's farm, acquiring a practical knowledge of agriculture, until he came to this State. He first visited Nebraska in 1880, when he came here on a prospecting tour, and, being much pleased with the country, he determined to come here and locate permanently, which he did in the spring of 1883, settling on his father's land in Gage County. At that time the land was wild prairie, and our subject turned the first furrow and set out the first trees, and he fenced one-half of the section, the land comprising 640 acres on section 19. He put up a fine house on a good foundation, the dimensions of the building being 18x26x16 feet, with an L 12x14x12 feet. He also built a barn, stables and other necessary buildings. He then engaged in grain raising, and continued to live on the farm for one year. He then came here, and formed a partnership with Mr. Andrews, and is still carrying on the business very successfully.

Mr. White conducts his business in a systematic manner and by thoroughly honorable methods, and has thus built up a good and lucrative trade, and at the same time has won an excellent reputation. He is already numbered among the solid and influential men of the town, financially and socially speaking, and, although he has been a resident of the city only about five years, his fellow-citizens have from the first placed implicit confidence in him, and for the last three years the public finances have been entrusted to his care, he having been Treasurer of the Town Board for that length of time, and since last spring he has been Treasurer of the School Board.

February 27, 1884, our subject was united in

marriage to Miss Jennie Andrews, of Gage County, Neb., and their union has been blessed to them by the birth of one son, Leroy A. Mr. and Mrs. White are exemplary members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a Trustee. Mr. White is identified with the K. of P. Mrs. White was born Dec. 18, 1859, in Will County, Ill., and is a daughter of George and Mary (Dann) Andrews, natives of England, her father having been born in Brigg, Lincolnshire, in 1828. He came to America with his wife in 1854, and, settling on new land in Will County, Ill., improved a fine large farm. He is still living, and is greatly respected for his honest, blameless character. He is an active worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, as was his wife, who departed this life in 1878. They were the parents of seven children who grew to maturity. Mrs. White came to Nebraska in 1882.



**J**AMES T. STEWART, who is one of Pawnee County's pioneers, is a fine representative of one of her important precincts, that of Plum Creek. He is skillful and energetic in his calling, displaying a good degree of enterprise and thrift, and his well-improved farm on section 3 is considered one of the best tilled and best equipped places in the neighborhood, and is one of which the owner may well be proud, as he has developed it to its present fine condition from the wild prairie.

The subject of this sketch was born April 7, 1846, near Cambridge, Guernsey Co., Ohio. His parents, Edie and Elenora (Spier) Stewart, were natives of the same county. Robert Stewart, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania. He served as a private in the War of 1812, and later became an early settler of Guernsey County, Ohio. He cleared a farm from the forest and engaged in farming and stock-raising for many years. His death occurred in Belmont County, Ohio, in 1872, when he was some eighty years of age. The paternal great-grandfather of our subject came from the North of Ireland to this country some time during the last century and located in Pennsylvania, where his remaining days were passed. Zethaniah Spier, the maternal grandfather

of our subject, was of American birth, but of Scotch descent. He was a farmer in Guernsey County, Ohio, and continued there until his death of cancer, in 1858. Grandmother Spier lived to be over ninety years old.

The father of our subject was reared on a farm in Guernsey County, and there married and made his home the rest of his days, owning a farm there and prosperously engaging in agricultural pursuits. While on a visit to St. Louis, in 1863, whither he had gone in search of a son who was in the army, he died of a sunstroke, at the age of forty-five. He was a man of marked decision of character, of unswerving integrity, and of an earnest, thoughtful disposition. He was a valued member of the United Presbyterian Church, and in his political sentiments a rank Abolitionist. The mother of our subject, a woman of sterling worth, makes her home in Pawnee City, and is now sixty-eight years old. Of their marriage twelve children were born, namely: Elizabeth; Rebecca and Joseph are both deceased; Robert, James T., John (a minister of the United Presbyterian Church in New York State), Mary, William, Mathew, Irwin, Jane and Samuel, the last five being dead. Joseph was a soldier in the late war, enlisting in 1861 in the 78th Ohio Infantry, attached to the Army of the West. He was taken sick at Pittsburg Landing, and died in the hospital in 1862.

James T. Stewart, of whom we write, grew to manhood on the old homestead in Ohio that had been his birthplace. He received the usual common-school advantages, and at the age of eighteen, in the spring of 1864, enlisted in the 162d Ohio National Guards, and was mustered into the service at Cambridge. His regiment was sent down to the Ohio River to take charge of the Government post at Gallipolis, and our subject did guard duty there until he was mustered out at Cambridge, Ohio, in August, 1864. During his term of service he proved himself to be possessed of many soldierly qualities, and by his faithfulness and ready obedience to the commands of his superior officers he readily won their confidence. After leaving the army Mr. Stewart returned to his old home and remained with his mother until he was twenty-one years of age. He then tried farming in Monroe County, Iowa, but at



the expiration of a year he returned to Guernsey County, Ohio, where he spent the following year. In the fall of 1868 he determined to try life on the frontier, and started for Nebraska with a wagon and a pair of horses. He crossed the Mississippi at Burlington, and the Missouri at Brownville, having been eight weeks on the way. He came on to his present place and located on it in February, 1869. He built a sod house and broke prairie, and two years later set out trees in groves, comprising four acres of land, and an orchard of two acres, which is now the finest in the neighborhood and was the first one planted on the prairie of Plum Creek. His land is fenced in hedge and cross-fenced, and it is all under admirable tillage and yields large harvests. It is watered by springs of living water. For the first five years the nearest market was in Nebraska City, a distance of several miles. He had to haul the lumber for his house and other buildings from Brownville. He has erected a substantial and cozy dwelling, good barns, and other necessary farm buildings. Mr. Stewart makes a specialty of raising stock, feeds all the grain that he raises, buys and feeds cattle and also hogs. He has thirteen head of fine blooded horses, one English draft named Charley and a Kentucky Jack. He uses two teams to operate his farm. Mr. Stewart is an active, wide-awake man, is quick to take advantage of the markets for the sale of his stock or farm products, and has met with fine success in his agricultural ventures since becoming a resident of Nebraska.

James Stewart and Miss Mary J. Robertson, a native of Guernsey County, Ohio, were united in marriage in Cambridge in February, 1867. To them six children have been born, as follows: William F., James A., Sarah E., Maurice J., Lola and Daisy B., all of whom are at home. William is a student at the Pawnee City High School. Mrs. Stewart was born in October, 1843. William and Elizabeth (Officir) Robertson are natives of Pennsylvania. Her grandfather Robertson was a native of Ireland. After migrating to this country he settled first in Pennsylvania, and then removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, where he engaged in farming until his death. Mrs. Stewart's maternal grandfather was born in Scotland, and on coming to

America he settled in Pennsylvania. From there he removed to Guernsey County, Ohio, and there he was engaged as a farmer, and there he died. Mrs. Stewart's parents grew up in Ohio, and were married there. The mother died there in 1865 at the age of forty-five years. The father bought a tract of unimproved land, developed it into a fine farm, and made his home thereon until his death in 1888, at nearly seventy years of age. Both he and his wife were stanch members of the United Presbyterian Church. They were the parents of twelve children, as follows: Nancy M. and Sarah M., deceased; Mary J.; Elizabeth O., living in Illinois; Sarah F., Lincoln, John, Josephine and Martha, who are dead; William, Catherine and Samantha.

Mr. Stewart occupies an honorable position in this community as a trustworthy and highly esteemed citizen. He takes an active interest in public affairs and does all that he can to promote the welfare of the precinct. This is especially true of educational matters, in which he has been very influential. He is School Director, was a prominent factor in organizing the precinct, assisted in building the school-house, and himself taught the third term in this district. He has held the office of Justice of the Peace for four years, discharging the duties appertaining thereto with characteristic fidelity and despatch. He was instrumental in building the United Presbyterian Church at Burchard, and with his wife is one of the most active members of that religious denomination at the present time, and they also take a deep interest in the Sunday-school. Mr. Stewart has served on the Grand and the Petit Jury, and in his political sentiments he is an unqualified Republican, fully believing in the policy of that party.



**W**ILLIAM AIKINS, an aged and highly respected resident of Pawnee City, spent the active years of his life as a mechanic, and has now arrived at the advanced age of eighty-four years, having been born June 11, 1805. His native place was Belmont County, Ohio, and his parents were Robert and Mary Aikins, the former a native of Ireland, and the latter of Pennsylvania.





studies in the High School of that city. At the expiration of five years he was graduated from that institution with a good record for scholarship. He subsequently served an apprenticeship of five years in a large life insurance company, and after that continued in the employment of the company some years. In 1873 our subject entered the large importing house of George Campbell & Co., of Liverpool, England, with whom he was engaged for some time, being a part of the time located in their branch house at Glasgow. Mr. Miller was an ambitious, enterprising young man, with a keen desire to find the best the world held for him, and accordingly, after mature deliberation, concluded to come to the United States and establish himself in one of the young and rapidly growing States of the recently settled western section of the country. He selected Nebraska as the objective point of his destination, and coming here in 1876 purchased a farm near Pawnee City, where he lived for five years, successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising, his cattle having been nearly full-blooded Short-horns. That farm not being sufficiently large for his purposes our subject disposed of it in 1881, and bought his present estate, which consists of 640 acres in one body, lying on sections 11, 12, 1 and 2, of Pawnee Precinct. The land was in its normal condition at the time of purchase, but Mr. Miller has devoted his time and money to its improvement, having it now under a fine state of cultivation, and has erected a fine house, good corn cribs, a substantial barn, and fenced the farm with hedge, board and wire fence. One lot of sixty acres, surrounded by a board fence, is used exclusively as a hog pasture, he keeping 100 or more hogs in it. He also keeps about 150 head of stock, chiefly Short-horns, breeding and raising his own cattle, and also breeding his own horses, his favorite stock being Clydesdale. Mr. Miller lived on his farm about four years, then moved to the village of Table Rock, where he now resides. He is a business man of marked talent and sagacity, and besides being cashier of the Table Rock Bank owns one-fifth interest in it. It was first established by Messrs. Forbes and Jones in 1882, and sold by them Nov. 2, 1885, to the present owners, John R. Clark, of Lincoln, Neb.; David Remick, of Los Angeles, Cal.;

J. N. Eckman and John C. David, of Pawnee City; and our subject. At the time of purchase the latter was made cashier, and has served acceptably to all. This bank is one of four associate banks in the county, all controlled by the same men, Mr. Miller being one of the directors of each, the other three banks being the First National Bank, of Pawnee City; the Burchard State Bank, at Burchard, and the State Bank at DuBois. All are paying institutions, and receive a good share of patronage. Our subject is treasurer of the Table Rock Creamery, which is the only one in the county, and is doing a large and prosperous business.

Although Mr. Miller is interested in the welfare of the precinct, and is ever ready and willing to advance its interests, he has steadily refused all local offices except that of School Director. In politics he is independent. He is one of the leading members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is treasurer, and is also secretary of the Sunday-school connected with it. He is a man of strong intellectual force, keen perceptive faculties, excellent business tact, and above all one of unswerving integrity, high moral rectitude, and is always spoken of in terms of the highest commendation by his fellow-citizens.

The marriage of our subject with Miss Jenny I. Taylor was solemnized in October, 1878. She was born in Pennsylvania, and lived in that State until three years of age, when she came with her parents to this State. Her father, Robert Taylor, was one of the early pioneers of Pawnee County. (For further parental history see his sketch on another page of this volume.) Three bright and interesting children have blessed the wedded life of our subject and his wife, namely: Mabel M., Robert T. and Gordon D.



**T**HOMAS MENEHAN, an active, alert and well-to-do farmer of West Branch Precinct, owns and operates a large and productive farm of 320 acres in one body, one-half lying on sections 32 and 33 of Pawnee County, Neb., and the other half in Marshall County, Kan. He is a native of Ireland, born in County Mayo, Sept. 3,

1850. His father, Michael Menehan, was born and spent his entire life in County Mayo, dying there in 1830. He was a farmer by occupation, and after arriving at man's estate married Miss Bridget Sally, who was a native of the same county as himself. She survived her husband, and coming to America died in Nebraska in 1875, at the venerable age of seventy-five years. She was a worthy woman, and a member of the Catholic Church. To her and her husband were born seven children, namely: John, William, Michael, James (deceased), Margaret, Thomas and Patrick.

Our subject was reared on the home farm, and received a limited education in a pay school, remaining at home until he attained his majority. Hoping to better his condition, he induced his mother, sister, and one of his brothers to accompany him to America. Setting sail from Liverpool in the vessel "Mary Ann Chancellor," they landed at New York City June 18, 1863. Our subject had but little money, but he had a good stock of courage and perseverance, and proceeding to Pennsylvania, procured work in the coal mines of Schuylkill County, where he remained a little more than a year, then started for this State. Traveling by rail to St. Joseph, Mo., he there took a steamer for Leavenworth, and then came from there by wagon to Pawnee County. Mr. Menehan did not make a long stop here at that time, but returning to Leavenworth was there engaged in quarrying for a year. He afterward secured employment as a teamster in freighting across the plains between Leavenworth and Ft. Dodge, making five trips during the next two summer seasons, and having one or two narrow escapes from the Indians on the way. Being prudent, as well as industrious, our subject had by that time accumulated a little money, and wishing to invest it in land came again to this county, in 1866, and took up a homestead claim of eighty acres of land on section 32, which is included in his present farm. He was one of the earliest settlers of the precinct, and to men of his enterprise, activity and good judgment is West Branch Precinct indebted for its present prosperity. Mr. Menehan labored arduously to improve his farm, setting out groves of forest trees, an orchard of 200 fruit trees, hedged and fenced his

land, and subsequently put up a good set of farm buildings, and an ample and complete dwelling, hauling the lumber from Seneca. On his farm our subject raises crops from which he secures a good income, and he has been enabled to buy more land from time to time, and to increase the number of his cattle. He makes a specialty of buying and feeding stock, and also raises a large number of hogs, and has on his place eight horses of good grade.

Mr. Menehan was married in St. Joseph, Mo., in 1870, to Miss Mary Smith. She was born in Madison, Ind., and has borne her husband two children, Michael H. and William. In politics Mr. Menehan is a stanch Democrat, and both he and his estimable wife are prominent members of the Catholic Church near their home, which they helped to build, and to the support of which they generously contribute. In politics Mr. M. acts with the Democratic party.



**H**ON. EUGENE M. BERRY, the present representative of his district in the Twenty-first Nebraska State Legislature, holds a leading position among the extensive agriculturists of Pawnee County, who have been so largely instrumental in its upbuilding. Although not one of the earliest settlers of this county, as he did not come here until 1877, he may justly lay claim to the title of pioneer, as since that time he has by energy and patient persistence, combined with skillful management, developed a large and finely improved farm from the wild prairie. It comprises 480 acres of land of unsurpassed productiveness, located on section 23, Mission Creek Precinct, and was one of the first to be opened up on this part of the prairie. It has an ample supply of water from Mission Creek, is partly fenced in hedge and wire, and an attractive dwelling, neat barns and other substantial buildings adorn the place. Mr. Berry raises large crops of corn, besides devoting much time to raising stock, having twelve or fourteen fine horses, using three teams to operate the farm, and having cattle and hogs of the best graded breeds. Besides this farm Mr. Berry owns 180 more acres of valuable land.



Mr. Berry comes of a somewhat notable ancestry on both the paternal and maternal side, and among his progenitors, who seem to have been stalwart men of more than average vigor and capacity, were some of the early settlers of Virginia, and the town of Berryville, in that State, received its name in honor of one of them who was its founder. They were also conspicuous in the early settlement of other States in a later day and generation, being pioneers of Maryland, Tennessee, Ohio, and still later even of Wisconsin.

The great-grandfather of our subject, Joseph Berry, was born in Berryville, Va., and was of Irish descent. He served as a scout all through the Revolution. After the Revolution he crossed the mountains to Tennessee, and became an early settler of that State, but was killed by the Indians. His son Joseph was born and reared in Tennessee, and subsequently went to Virginia, whence his parents had removed, and he was there married, and settling in Knox County, Ohio, helped to build the first house in Mt. Vernon. He cleared up a farm from the forest and went from his pioneer home to take part in the War of 1812. After that, the pioneer spirit that had animated his forefathers being strong within him, he made his way in 1835 to Andrew County, Mo., and was one of the early settlers of that locality. He actively engaged in farming in his adopted State until his death in 1854, at the age of sixty-five years. He was a firm supporter of the policy of the Whig party, and was a man of decisive character.

The maternal great-grandfather of our subject, Moses Andrews, who was a native of England, emigrated to this country prior to the Revolution, and took up Government land on the present site of Baltimore. He was an officer in the War of 1812, and subsequently moved to Pennsylvania, where he spent the remainder of his life. His wife was born in Wales. Their son Thomas, the grandfather of our subject, was born in Pennsylvania, and as he grew to manhood learned the blacksmith trade, and during some period of his life moved to Ohio and became a pioneer of Wayne County. Settling near the town of Wooster he engaged in his trade there until his removal to Wisconsin in 1833, where he again became a pioneer. He was one of the early

settlers of LaFayette County, and established a smithy near the town of Argyle, and also engaged in farming. Later in life he moved to Neosha Rapids, and engaged in blacksmithing there, and there he rounded out an honorable life of seventy-five years in 1865. He accumulated considerable wealth, and was a man of prominence in public affairs, and was known by the title of Squire.

The parents of our subject, the Rev. Dr. John A. and Elenora (Andrews) Berry, were born respectively in 1822, in Knox County, Ohio, and in 1823, in Wayne County, Ohio. The father received a liberal education, studying at Kenyon College, and then attending the Medical College at Middleboro, Ohio. He was graduated from that institution after pursuing a full course that well fitted him for his profession, and he then began to practice medicine in Danville, Knox Co., Ohio, and for thirteen years was the leading physician of that locality. At the expiration of that time he felt called to the ministry, and identifying himself with the Northern Ohio Methodist Episcopal Conference, he had charges in the various county seats of Ohio. He was finally appointed agent for the Ohio Female College. His useful and active life was brought to a close in 1863, in Granville, Ohio, while yet in its very prime, he being then but forty-one years of age, he having overworked. He was a self-made man in the best sense of the word, and whatever he attempted he carried through with characteristic zeal. His ministry was a signal success. He was a man of fine powers of mind, and of a lofty, pure spirit, and in him every righteous cause found a champion. He was a man of intense patriotism, and on the breaking out of the late war wished to enlist in his country's defense, but was refused permission, presumably on account of his health. He was an anti-slavery man and vigorously supported the Republican party. The mother of our subject was the worthy wife of such a husband. She is now living in Decatur, Ohio. Seven children were born of her marriage, as follows: Clementine, Rosalea, Fannie, John A., Eugene, Cora and Edward.

Eugene Berry was born in Danville, Knox Co., Ohio, Jan. 21, 1852. He was reared in town, and had good school advantages. His father died when he was eleven years old, and when he was fourteen

years of age, being a manly, self-reliant lad, he began to be self-supporting. He worked at different trades for some time, and when he was eighteen years old learned the plasterer's trade. After that he turned his attention to farming, and renting land was thus engaged in his native State until he was twenty-three years of age. He was very ambitious to secure a good education, and at that time entered Wittenberg College, in Ohio, and for two years assiduously pursued a general scientific course under efficient instructors, greatly to his benefit, and since leaving college he has supplemented his studies by reading and observation. In 1877, then in the prime of early manhood, well equipped mentally and physically, our subject came to Nebraska to assist the men of brain and enterprise who were pushing the fortunes of this young and vigorous State. He located on his present place, which then comprised but 180 acres of land, and we have seen how he has since added to it and developed it into a fine farm.

Since locating here Mr. Berry has taken an active part in public affairs, and has gained a high reputation as a sagacious counselor and safe leader. He is an ardent advocate of the Republican policy, and in the fall of 1888 he was elected on the Republican ticket to represent this district in the State Legislature for the next two years, having a plurality of 635. He possesses many admirable traits for a legislator, being a conscientious worker, well informed as to the needs of his adopted State, and one in whose integrity and honor his fellow-citizens have perfect confidence, and it is safe to predict that his career as a statesman will redound to his credit. He has been an incumbent of local offices of responsibility, and has been a delegate to State Conventions of his party. He and his wife figure prominently in social circles in Pawnee County, and he belongs to the Knights of Pythias at Pawnee City.

The marriage of our subject to Miss Carrie Jones took place Oct. 19, 1881, in Ross County, Ohio. She was a native of that place, and had before marriage been a school teacher. The pleasant household of our subject and his wife is completed by the presence of the three children born to them, namely: Althea, Elenora and Joanna. Mrs. Berry is a val-

ued and consistent member of the Baptist Church. She was a teacher before her marriage, is finely educated, is an artist of marked talent, and her and her husband's charming home is adorned by many choice paintings of her own execution.



**J**OSEPH HAYS. It has been the privilege of him to whom we now call attention to watch for a period of over twenty years the growth and development of this county. He first migrated to this region in 1866, during the Territorial days of Nebraska, and although naturally a courageous man, the outlook was so forbidding he retraced his steps to the confines of civilization. He noted, however, that there were undoubtedly vast natural resources waiting for development, and so in the fall of 1867 repeated his experimental visit, this time to stay. He bought nearly an entire section of land, only forty acres of which had been disturbed by the plowshare, and proceeded after the manner of the early pioneer to battle with life on the frontier. He has, perhaps, had more than most men to contend with; he has met with loss and affliction, but these have developed a character of more than ordinary excellence. There is no surer indication of a man's moral worth than the estimation in which he is held by his neighbors, and in whatever respect otherwise Mr. Hays may have failed in realizing his ambitions in this he certainly has reasons to rejoice and be glad.

Before proceeding further it will perhaps be well to take a backward glance at the childhood and youth of our subject. He was born in Pope County, Ill., March 4, 1819, and lived there with his parents two years, when they removed to Morgan County, that State, and sojourned in the latter a period of forty-five years, settling there when the now flourishing town of Jacksonville had not even a name. Young Hays passed his boyhood after the manner of most farmers' sons, receiving a limited education in the common schools and employing himself at farming pursuits mostly, although for two years upon approaching manhood he was engaged in mercantile business at Yatesville.



Farming, however, proved more congenial to the tastes of Mr. Hays than merchandising, and he soon returned to his legitimate business. He had been carefully trained under the home roof, and grew up to be a worthy member of the community, receiving that recognition among his fellow-citizens which resulted in his being elected to the office of Justice of the Peace, which he held seven years, and to other positions of trust and responsibility. When about twenty-three years of age he took unto himself a wife and helpmate, being married at the home of the bride, Nov. 11, 1842, to Miss Mary T. Bowen, a native of Morgan County, Ill. The young people began the journey of life together upon a farm in Morgan County, and lived in Illinois until crossing the two great rivers and settling in the farther West.

Upon the purchase of Mr. Hays in Table Rock Precinct, when first coming here there stood a small frame house. He had a large family of children, and hence arose the necessity of providing more commodious quarters as soon as possible. The summer following he put up the large frame dwelling which he still owns and occupies, and which is still in a good state of preservation. He fenced 100 acres with smooth wire, put out two miles of hedge, and began planting cottonwood trees, which are now three feet in diameter. He also set out an orchard of apple trees which are now nineteen years old, and has abundance of the smaller fruits, which provide in their season many luxuries for the household. In due time he began raising grain extensively, and finally drifted into the breeding of live stock, keeping large numbers of cattle, horses and swine, and at one time had a flock of 400 sheep which yielded him a good income.

Mr. Hays and his family from the first enjoyed excellent health, and only one of the fifteen in his family ever had the ague. Mr. Hays assisted in building the first bridge over Long Branch on the Brownville road, and also in laying out the roads through Table Rock Precinct, there being one highway at the time of his coming here. The precinct then comprised two school districts, one of the school-houses being near the present site of Table Rock. Mr. Hays sent his seven children into Richardson County to school one winter, the near-

est point elsewhere being five miles away. He assisted in the organization of School District No. 52, being the prime mover, going personally to every voter. He was appointed County Superintendent of Schools, and was one of the most active men within its limits to introduce facilities for the education of the young.

It naturally followed that Mr. Hays was also elected Moderator of his school district, and he has since held that office. A small frame building was put up at a cost of \$400, and a teacher was employed whose salary was insured by the issuing of bonds. Game was then plentiful in this region, also Indians. The settlers were obliged to take their produce to market at Brownville, thirty miles away, the trip occupying two days' time, and then receiving only thirty cents per bushel for their hard-earned wheat.

Mr. Hays witnessed the erection of the first house at Humboldt. Upon visiting Pawnee City on the 3d of June, 1867, he found the court-house in process of erection, just three feet above the ground, but there was a place provided at which to pay taxes. There was also a post-office and one or two stores. Court was held first in the house of the Postmaster, J. L. Edwards. In the building of his own house Mr. Hays did much of the work himself. It was quite an imposing structure for those times, covering an area of 32x21 feet, with a 12-foot addition, and was at the time the largest house in this part of the county. Included among its inmates were eight daughters and two stalwart sons. Each year witnessed some improvement in the property, and the Hays homestead in due time was familiar to people all over the county as the home of one of its best citizens.

The precinct voted railroad bonds to the amount of \$20,000, but on account of irregularity they sought a release, which the railroad agreed to in case the county would vote a tax. Mr. Hays was made Chairman of the committee appointed to fight the perpetuation of the bonds, which were drawing ten per cent. interest, and was so successful in his efforts that he saved for the precinct the sum of \$30,000, a result for which the people ever hold him in grateful remembrance.

Mr. H was also frequently summoned as a jury-

man, and was often sent as a delegate to the various County Conventions. He has cast his ballot in Table Rock Precinct when there were only three Democratic votes within its limits. The Democracy is now sixty strong.

Mrs. Mary (Bowen) Hays was born in Morgan County, Ill., March 12, 1825, and is the daughter of Andrew Bowen, a native of Kentucky, who spent his last years in Morgan County. He emigrated to Illinois when a young man, and married Miss Penninah Hardin. They became the parents of four children. Mr. Bowen died when his daughter Mary was a young child. He was a farmer and mechanic combined, a peaceable and law-abiding citizen, who provided comfortably for his family, and was a good neighbor. The wife and mother departed this life in Jasper County, Iowa, in 1883, at the age of seventy-four.

To Mr. and Mrs. Hays there came a family of nine children, one of whom died when twenty-two years old, and eight are still living. These were named respectively: Sarah Ellen, Penninah Jane, Mary Elizabeth, Amanda Melvina; Frances Josephine, deceased; Isabelle Ann, Olive Henrietta, Rosetta Melissa and Hardin W. They also reared a little girl, Minnie May, who was taken into their family when three weeks old. The eldest daughter, Sarah E., is the wife of John F. Smith, of Montana, and they have four children; Penninah is the widow of Michael Stockton, and is also the mother of four children; Mary, Mrs. Benjamin Sage, lives in Morgan County, Ill.; Amanda married John I. Latham, of Harper County, Kan., and they have three sons and two daughters; Isabelle Ann is the wife of James Sage, of Jasper County, Iowa, and they have four children; Olive is the wife of Mr. A. McClintock, of Table Rock Precinct; they have three children; Rosetta is the only child at home. They were all given a good practical education, and without exception possess fine musical talents.

William Hays, the father of our subject, was born on the Yadkin River, in North Carolina, in 1793. Thence he migrated first to Kentucky, and then to Illinois, settling on a farm in Morgan County, and employed himself considerably as a mechanic. He married Miss Webb, a native of Ken-

tucky, and they became the parents of seven children, all of whom lived to mature years. The elder Hays took up land in Morgan County, Ill., where he improved a good farm, and where his death took place in 1844. He was one of the earliest pioneers of that section, a good and worthy man, respected by all who knew him. The wife and mother survived her husband until about 1860. Both were devoted members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, with which Father Hays was identified for a period of forty years, and the mother probably about that length of time.

The paternal grandfather of our subject was Joseph Hays, Sr., who settled in Kentucky, and later served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, in which he sacrificed his life to his country. His widow was subsequently married, but kept her son William with her until he started out in life for himself. Moses Webb, the maternal grandfather of our subject, was a drummer boy in the Revolutionary War four years, under the immediate command of Gen. Washington. He served two years in a cavalry regiment. He spent the last two years of his life with his son-in-law William, and enjoyed a pension from the Government. He lived to be seventy-two years old, surviving his wife, who had passed away several years before.

Mr. Hays, during the earlier days of Illinois, and during his boyhood, went on foot from his home in Morgan County to Alton, that State, driving a herd of swine, which he sold at \$1.50 per 100, net weight.



**E**PHRAIM KINGSBURY. After a series of years spent as an industrious tiller of the soil we find this gentleman sitting independently under his own vine and fig tree, otherwise a pleasant and comfortable home in Pawnee City, where he is actively engaged in business as a cattle dealer. He traveled a long distance from his native place in seeking a permanent home, having first opened his eyes to the light among the rugged New England hills, near Brattleboro, in Windham County, Vt., May 29, 1817. The Kingsburys of New England were widely and favorably known among the



people of the Green Mountain State. The Christian name of the father of our subject was John, and he was born in Connecticut in 1775. Upon reaching man's estate he married Miss Lovica Hall, also a native of Connecticut, and the daughter of John Hall, of English ancestry. The mother of our subject was born in 1780, and both parents lived to an advanced age, the father passing away when seventy-five, and the mother after numbering her fourscore years.

Twelve children, seven sons and five daughters, gathered around the hearthstone of John and Lovica Kingsbury, and of this large family ten lived to mature years, and four still survive, Ephraim was the seventh in order of birth, and spent his youthful years in his native county, attending the district school and making his home on the farm with his parents until reaching his majority. He then started out for himself, and when approaching the twenty-fourth year of his age was married to Miss Rosina S. Thayer. This lady was likewise born in Vermont, and was the daughter of Col. Ezra and Thirza (Sheldon) Thayer.

Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury soon after their marriage emigrated from New England to Wisconsin, settling on a farm in that State in 1852. They lived in the Badger State a period of sixteen years, then crossing the Mississippi came to this county, and settled on a tract of land two miles west of the present site of Pawnee City, but within the limits. In Wisconsin Mr. Kingsbury was engaged mostly in the lumber business, but after coming to Nebraska turned his attention to stock raising, buying, shipping and feeding until 1885. Then, on account of failing health, he wisely retired from active labor, turning his stock-raising interests over to his son. He was the owner of 320 acres of finely improved land, and a whole section in the vicinity of Burchard, which he has since sold.

There are living but four of the eight children born to Mr. and Mrs. Kingsbury. Ellen M. is the wife of O. E. Hall, a farmer; Orvel V. is at Sterling, this State; Marian L. is the wife of W. H. Towne, of Wisconsin; Homer A. is married and lives with our subject. The four children deceased passed away at a tender age. The paternal grandfather of our subject was John Kingsbury, a native of Con-

necticut, and the son of an English gentleman who emigrated to America at an early period in the history of this country. Mrs. Kingsbury was the eldest daughter of her parents, whose family comprised eight children.



**JOHN T. CONDON.** Mission Creek Precinct probably contains no finer estate than that represented by the subject of this biography. He has 320 acres of prime land, largely devoted to sheep-raising, and which is pleasantly located on section 13. With its buildings and appurtenances it forms the ideal country homestead, and indicates at the first glance the supervision of a man of more than ordinary enterprise and capabilities.

Baltimore, Md., was the native place of our subject, and where his birth occurred Oct. 16, 1842. When he was a child of six years his parents removed to Ohio, where he grew up amid good influences, and when of suitable years and attainments entered the High School at Fredericktown. He pursued his studies there until a youth of eighteen years, and then the outbreak of the Civil War furnished him unlooked-for employment. In 1861 he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company A, 20th Ohio Infantry, and was mustered into service at Mt. Vernon. His regiment was assigned to the 3d Division, 17th Corps, Army of the Tennessee. He had enlisted under the first call for troops, and remained with his regiment until the close of the war, participating in many of the important battles, in the meantime having re-enlisted for the three-years service, after the expiration of his first term. At the battle of Shiloh he was shot in the leg and confined in the hospital for three weeks. Later, at Champion Hills, he received a second but slighter wound, from which he was laid up for two weeks only. He was under the immediate command of Gen. Grant most of the time, was present at the siege of Vicksburg and Atlanta, joined the Red River expedition, and later was with Sherman's army, participating in the siege of Atlanta. He was taken prisoner and started to Andersonville by rail. During the night he jumped from the train,





ent fine condition of the farm is due to his own efforts and those of our subject. His home the first winter was in what might be called a hut, but in the following spring he put up a small house for himself, 10x14 feet in size, and having but one room seven feet high. In this the family lived for three years, and then made an addition to it. In 1875 our subject built the fine new house which he now occupies.

Caleb H. Lane was born in Tennessee, Aug. 3, 1817, and at the age of twelve was taken to Jackson County, Ill., where his parents were among the earliest settlers. He himself was a schoolmate of the late Gen. John A. Logan. His wife was Mrs. Mary Ann Crissler, and they were the parents of four children, all now living: Margaret is the wife of J. H. Purcell, whose history is given in another part of this volume; Barbara, now Mrs. Cooper, lives in North Auburn, Neb.; our subject was next, and the youngest was George M., a resident of the northern part of Sheridan Precinct. The wife of Caleb Lane died in Table Rock Village in 1883, and he removed to his early home in Jackson County, Ill., where he is still living.

March 12, 1873, our subject was united in marriage with Miss Rachael Melissa Freeman, a daughter of Henry Freeman, of whom see sketch on another page. Three children were born of this union: Maud E., born Oct. 26, 1874, and died Sept. 22, 1881; Eva Irene was born in March, 1880, and Harry, Aug. 31, 1881. The two latter are attending school. After his marriage he settled upon the place which has ever since been his home, where he has put up fine buildings and made many improvements. He is mainly engaged in the breeding of a fine class of draft horses, and is the owner of Sir Edward, an imported Clydesdale, register No. 3,015, dark bay in color, of fine movement, three years old, sixteen and a half hands high, weighing 1,670 pounds, and undoubtedly the best horse in the county. He is also the owner of Castor, an imported black Norman, four years old, handsomely built and good movement, register No. 3,036, height seventeen hands, weight 1,840 pounds. Besides these Mr. Lane has many other good horses.

Our subject is now Moderator of Schools in his precinct, of which he has also been Assessor and

Treasurer, although he is in no sense an office-seeker. He casts his vote for the candidates of the Democratic party. He was born in Perry County, Ill., Sept. 12, 1852, and was eight years old when his parents brought him to this county. He was here at the time the first school-house was built in the precinct, at which time his father, C. H. Lane, was a member of the board, and before that our subject had attended a subscription school for three winters, which was taught by Mrs. Frank Sanford, whose husband was in the Union Army. After completing his education he worked as a farm hand until he was of age. His long residence here has made Mr. Lane one of the best known and most respected citizens of the county.

— ❦ —

JAMES H. WALLACE. The United Presbyterian Church in Mission Creek Precinct has received a large proportion of its stimulus from the labors of Elder Wallace, who has been one of its most faithful coadjutors for many years. It would naturally seem that the student of Scripture would involuntarily have a rare appreciation of the works of nature, as is doubtless the case with the subject of this sketch, who, in addition to his duties in connection with the church, has also opened up one of the finest farms in this county, and is largely interested in general agriculture and stock-raising. His has been an experience rich and full of life and its various phases. During the Civil War he entered the service of his country, and came out of it one of its most honored veterans. In all the relations of life he has sustained himself with Christian dignity, and is looked upon as one of the leading men of this community.

As will be naturally inferred, our subject traces his ancestry to Scotland, a nationality than which there is no better on the face of the globe. He was born in Uniontown, Belmont Co., Pa., July 7, 1837. His father, David Wallace, married Miss Frances C. Rose, and they were both natives of the Keystone State, the mother born near Shippensburg, Cumberland County. The paternal grandfather, David Wallace, was born in Ireland, being a scion of one of the families who fled from their native

Scotland and sought refuge in that region from religious persecution. Upon emigrating to America Grandfather Wallace settled in Pennsylvania, where he engaged in farming a few years, then removed to Ohio, during the first settlement of Belmont County. He served in the War of 1812 as a private. Later, resuming agricultural pursuits in the Buckeye State, he became a prominent and influential man, an old-line Whig, politically, and a Justice of the Peace. He died in Belmont County at the age of seventy-two years.

The maternal grandfather of our subject was Robert Rose, a native of Pennsylvania, and of English ancestry. He was occupied during his early manhood as a teamster, farmer and miller, but upon his removal to Ohio purchased land, and devoted himself exclusively to agriculture. He also was one of the pioneer settlers of Belmont County, where he spent the remainder of his days, passing away at the ripe old age of eighty years. David Wallace, the father of our subject, was reared at the farm in Belmont County, Ohio, but like many young men, upon reaching his majority, and on account of a crippled hand, left the farm and learned the trade of harness-maker. He removed from Belmont to Guernsey County in 1843, and he returned to the employments in which he had been reared, purchasing land, and like his father before him engaged in farming, stock-raising and milling, operating both a saw and grist mill on his own farm. This comprised 160 acres, and adjacent to it grew up the town of Fairview.

The father of our subject left Ohio in 1869, migrating to Henderson County, Ill., and purchasing land near what is now the flourishing town of Biggsville. He built up a good farm, and there spent the remainder of his days, passing away in the spring of 1874, when seventy-two years old. Both he and his excellent wife had identified themselves with the United Presbyterian Church in their youth. The mother is still living, in Illinois, and is now eighty years of age. The parental household included ten children, namely: Mary and Ann E., who are deceased; R. R., who is a County Judge in Illinois; James H., our subject; Margaret, Mrs. Graham, a resident of Henderson County, Ill.; Sarah T., Mrs. Larimer, of Taylor County,

Iowa; David H., in Illinois; W. T., a farmer in Missouri; Cecelia, a resident of Colorado; and John, of Sioux City, Iowa.

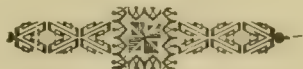
William Wallace, a younger brother of our subject, served during the late war in an Ohio regiment, about nine months. R. R. was in the 74th Ohio Infantry, serving from 1861 until the close, and suffering a broken leg by the falling of his horse. He was first promoted to Sergeant, and kept climbing up until he was given a Captain's commission over a company of heavy artillery, and with this rank was mustered out. James H., our subject, attended the High School during his youth, and remained on the farm with his parents until, emulating the patriotism of his brothers, he too enlisted as a Union soldier, in August, 1862, in Company H, 122d Ohio Infantry. His regiment was made part of the 3d Division, 6th Corps, Army of the Potomac. He was mustered in at Zanesville, Ohio, sent first to Parkersburg, and later did garrison duty at Winchester, Va., under Gen. Milroy. He was at the battle of Mine Run, under the command of Gen. Meade, in the fall of 1863, and later fought with Grant in the battles of the Wilderness. He also met the enemy at Spottsylvania, at Cold Harbor, and was in front of Petersburg. Later he went down the Shenadoah Valley with Sheridan. He also participated in the fights at Opequan, Flint Hills, Cedar Creek, and in many minor engagements and skirmishes, and in the spring of 1865 was again in front of Petersburg; was in that part of the army that followed Lee, and was in the final battle at Sailor's Creek. At the close of the war he received an honorable discharge at Columbus, Ohio.

Upon becoming a civilian Mr. W. returned to his old home in Ohio, and farmed until 1867. He then determined to seek the farther West, and repairing to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, engaged in the sale of agricultural implements, which he prosecuted eighteen months. The summer of 1869 he worked on a farm in Clinton County, and in the meantime his parents had removed to Henderson County, Ill. He joined them there, remaining in that region until 1873, farming on rented land. Returning to Iowa he located on Brokaw Prairie, in Gage County, but later made another trip to the Prairie State, spend-



ing one summer there. In August, 1874, he started overland with a team to this county, crossing the Missouri River at Brownville. He soon located 160 acres of land in Mission Creek Precinct, and commenced at first principles to open up a farm. This has since been his abiding-place, and all the improvements which the passing traveler to-day beholds with interest and admiration are the results of his industry. He set out a grove the second year, has an abundance of fruit trees, good buildings, live stock, and all the other accessories of the well-regulated farm. His stock embraces good breeds of horses, cattle and swine, many of them graded animals, and among them some of the finest to be seen in the county.

Miss Fanny L. Foster, of Monmouth, Ill., became the wife of our subject on the 4th of March, 1874. Mrs. Wallace was a native of South Carolina, and was born near Abbeville. She died at her home in this precinct early in the year 1889. She was a lady who had the love and respect of all who knew her. Of her union with our subject there are three children—Ralph F., Ora R. and Frank P. Mr. Wallace votes the straight Republican ticket, and is a man active in the support of his principles, frequently being sent as a delegate to County Conventions, and giving cheerfully of his time and means to the furtherance of every good work. He is a member of the School Board of his precinct, and has represented it in the County Board of Supervisors. He is an Elder in the United Presbyterian Church of Mission Creek, and is active in the Sunday-school, a regular teacher in the Bible Class, and otherwise laboring earnestly in the Master's vineyard. He was long ago placed among the representative men of Pawnee County, who have assisted in its development and prosperity.



**J**OHIN C. BECK was born in Clarion County, Pa., Oct. 12, 1858, and is the son of David F. and Sophia (Oglesby) Beck. The mother died in 1864, leaving our subject and his two sisters, Mary Jane and Eva. About a year

later the father, taking our subject with him, removed to near Caledonia, Minn., where Mr. Beck owned a flouring-mill. They remained there but two years, however, then the father taking his young son, removed to Victory, Vernon Co., Wis., and there Mr. Beck engaged for three years in the hotel business. At the expiration of this time they both removed to Pawnee County, Neb. During these migrations of the father and son, the two sisters remained in Pennsylvania, where the younger sister, Eva, died.

David F. Beck did not long remain in Nebraska, going soon after to Kansas, and is now living in Norton County, in that State. For several years he has been Deputy County Recorder.

On coming to Nebraska with his father, our subject remained in Table Rock, which has ever since been his home. He is now partner of William L. Taylor, in the livery stable business at that place, having the best establishment of the kind in the city. He has been fairly successful in business, and ranks among the enterprising and progressive young business men of the county. Ever since he has been old enough to vote he has been a staunch adherent of the Republican party.

October 22, 1884, John C. Beck was united in marriage with Miss Alice McKinzie. She is a daughter of William McKinzie, of Grove City, Christian Co., Ill., and she and her future husband became acquainted while she was visiting a sister who resides in Table Rock. Of this union one child has been born, a daughter named Laura V., now three years old. Mrs. Beck is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.



**W**ILLIAM L. TAYLOR, of the firm of Taylor & Beck, livery stable keepers, Table Rock, is an enterprising and intelligent representative of the business men of this city. He is a son of one of Pawnee County's well-known pioneers, John Taylor. The father was born in Scotland, March 4, 1826, and came to America in 1848 in the flush of early manhood. In 1850 he returned

to his native land for his promised bride, Miss Mary Wishart, and on the 3d of July they were united in marriage. Returning to his adopted country with his young wife, Mr. Taylor settled in Wilkesbarre, Pa., and in that town our subject was born to his parents June 2, 1851. In 1853, when he was two years of age they removed to Hawesville, Ky., and there the father established himself at his trade of blacksmith, which he conducted in that place the following eleven years. Four children were born to him and his wife during their residence in Kentucky.

In 1864 Mr. Taylor, accompanied by his family, sought a still newer country in the then Territory of Nebraska. He bought 160 acres of land on section 7, Sheridan Precinct, and took up another 160-acre tract under the provisions of the Homestead Act, and in the ensuing years, by incessant and skillful labor developed the whole 320 acres into one of the finest and most productive farms in the precinct. He erected a small log house in which the family lived for three or four years, and he then replaced it with a more substantial and roomy house of stone, the dwelling being 30x33 feet. The most of his land is tillable or else pasturage or timber. He hedged it and cross fenced it, and set out an orchard and windbreak, and made all the useful improvements usually made by an enterprising farmer. He fed all of his grain, and raised about 100 cattle and hogs yearly, keeping none but standard grades. He was here when the nearest market was the Missouri River, and the lumber for his house he had to draw from St. Joseph and Nebraska City. He became identified with the various interests of the precinct, and with great public spirit supported any enterprise that was calculated to be beneficial to it. He took an especially active part in promoting the educational facilities of Sheridan, and was there when the district in which he lived was organized, and was appointed the first Director of the district, and in that capacity was a member of the building committee that had charge of the erection of the frame school-house that was put up for the accommodation of the scholars in that part of the precinct, and for the first few years he paid the largest percentage of the taxes. He was one of the earliest settlers of the precinct to have an

extensive farm with all the necessary improvements, large barn, etc., and everything complete to make it a first-class farm. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church, and of the I. O. O. F. He was an intelligent reader, a man of good capacity and strict integrity, and as one of the substantial men of the community his death Oct. 26, 1888, was esteemed a great loss. He was twice married. The wife of his early manhood, the mother of our subject, died June 15, 1870 or 1871. For his second wife he married Mrs. Nancy Wyman, of this place, and she still survives him. They had two children.

The subject of this sketch remained with his father until he was about twenty-four years old, finishing his education at the Pawnee Academy, and after gaining a good practical experience of farming under his father's instruction, he engaged in that calling for himself. He was thus actively engaged until 1878, when he moved to Table Rock, and until the following year was in J. Barker's store. In 1879 he established the livery business, and continued it alone until 1881, when he was burned out. He then started up anew with a partner, who remained with him some years until Mr. Beck bought out his share, and entered into partnership with our subject. They have a large and well-appointed livery stable, with good road horses and neat, comfortable turn-outs, and are doing an extensive and lucrative business.

To the lady who presides over his pleasant and hospitable home, our subject was united in marriage, in Table Rock, Oct. 4, 1877. Mrs. Taylor, whose maiden name was Minnie J. Fox, was born Jan. 27, 1858, in Pennsylvania, a daughter of R. and Mary Fox, likewise natives of that State. Her mother came West and settled in Nemaha County in the pioneer days. Mrs. Fox came the next year to this precinct, and took up a homestead claim. Her husband subsequently went to war and died in Libby Prison. Mrs. Fox moved onto a claim with her family, and bravely held it in spite of adverse circumstances. She is still living in town, and is much respected by all who know her.

Our subject is a man of excellent judgment, has a clear, cool head for business, and his credit is good in financial circles. Politically, he is a Republican.



# INDEX.

## BIOGRAPHICAL.

### A

Adams, John.....23  
Adams, J. Q.....39  
Aikins, H. L.....428  
Aikins, William.....613  
Alder, Jacob.....244  
Anderson, W. I.....491  
Appelget, A. M.....216  
Appelget, Judge Thomas.....163  
Archer, Benjamin.....227  
Archer, J. L.....264  
Armstead, Job.....299  
Arneal, T. A.....471  
Arthur, Chester A.....99  
Atkins, W. C.....243  
Atkinson, J. C.....448  
Auker, G. W.....376

### B

Bacon, Solon.....351  
Badberg, John H.....404  
Baker, A. E.....603  
Baker, Allen C.....259  
Baker, B. J.....183  
Baker, T. C.....234  
Ball, A. B.....410  
Barr, J. D.....557  
Barr, Joseph.....557  
Barr, William.....572  
Barret, J. E.....365  
Beal, John.....372  
Beck, J. C.....625  
Becker, S. S.....433  
Beethe, C. A.....262  
Beethe, C. H.....309  
Bell, E. F.....344  
Bell, E. W.....574  
Bennett, George D.....188  
Benson, William.....377  
Berrie, Samuel.....250  
Berry, D. H.....367  
Berry, Hon. E. M.....616  
Biesemeier, C. F. A.....320  
Biner, N. O.....415

### C

Blacklaw, Mrs. M. E.....560  
Blake, Palmer.....257  
Blakeley, Jacob.....268  
Blythe, James S.....400  
Boomgaarn, John.....426  
Boone, E. T.....453  
Bradley, C. T.....387  
Bratton, J. H.....585  
Bridges, John W.....293  
Brigham, Josiah.....279  
Broady, Frederick.....276  
Brooks, J. B.....510  
Brooks, Thomas H.....413  
Brown, E. A.....366  
Brown, Isaac.....464  
Brown, John E.....352  
Brown, J. T.....594  
Brown, Silas L.....330  
Bruch, J. H.....468  
Bstandig, Ferdinand.....430  
Buchanan, James.....75  
Buehler, Christian.....404  
Buffum, J. W.....266  
Bull, W. B.....603  
Burow, Gottfried.....538  
Bush, D. R.....300  
Bush, George.....473  
Butler, David.....111  
Byrne, Michael.....463

Campbell, John C.....380  
Cannell, J. D.....197  
Carlyle, James E.....259  
Carman, Enoch.....391  
Carman, Henry C.....189  
Carman, Hon. A. A.....282  
Carman, Israel.....332  
Carman, James A.....411  
Carman, William E.....385  
Carmine, George W.....221  
Carver, John.....592  
Cathcart, Grant C.....331  
Cathcart, Joseph M.....347  
Chamberlain, Clarence K.....158  
Chamberlain, Charles M.....158  
Chamberlin, Marcus.....292  
Chubbuck, C. K., M. D.....229  
Cleveland, S. Grover.....103  
Cody, Hon. M. K.....393

### D

Collins, George W.....506  
Collins, William R.....190  
Combs, Elzie.....372  
Conard, John.....488  
Condon, J. T.....621  
Conklin, David C.....205  
Cook, Andrew.....156  
Cook, Edward.....333  
Cook, James W.....399  
Cooper, Hugh L.....334  
Cornell, T. L.....451  
Crile, Michael.....228  
Crow, J. H.....296  
Curry, Charles W.....607  
Curry, R. F.....238  
Curtis, Harrison J.....215  
Curtis, W. H.....454

Dafoe, P. V. R., M. D.....370  
Davenport, George W.....509  
Davis, John.....486  
Davis, Luther L.....519  
Dawes, James W.....127  
Derr, John.....249  
Determann, Lewis H.....226  
Deulen, James.....394  
Dew, Robert.....378  
Dible, John H.....257  
Dickerson, Philip.....186  
Dickinson, H. S.....531  
Dilworth, W. S.....248  
Dimon, C. V.....527  
Dollarhide, A. H.....241  
Dorsey, B. F.....198  
Drake, H. F.....324  
Drook, William.....266  
Dunlap, W. L.....340

### E

Easterday, M. V.....389  
Eaton, Alexander.....242  
Eaton, Stephen W.....273  
Edgerton, J. W.....438  
Edwards, J. L.....585

Edwards, T. J.....291  
Elliott, John M.....260  
Ellis, Fernandes H.....256  
Ellis, Hon. Charles C.....265  
Ellison, Mc.....553  
Epley, John.....407  
Ernst, Herman.....232  
Erwin, Robert M.....245

### F

Fillmore, Millard.....67  
Finzer, Jacob.....334  
Flanagin, John.....549  
Foale, Peter G.....455  
Frank, Christian F.....442  
Frank, William A.....479  
Frazee, Hiram.....579  
Freeburn, Hon. William.....207  
Freeman, Henry.....447  
Fuller, B. H.....480  
Fuller, William.....338  
Furnas, Robert W.....115

### G

Gabby, Hugh.....489  
Gallagher, Davis.....537  
Garber, Silas.....119  
Gardner, William H.....242  
Garfield, James A.....95  
Gehr, Israel.....263  
Gill, James F.....582  
Glass, James R.....176  
Glasson, Joseph.....282  
Goering, George.....203  
Goin, Philip.....481  
Gold, Peter.....484  
Goldsby, John.....180  
Goodman, Thomas.....230  
Gore, Joshua.....350  
Gore, W. R.....157  
Goudy, A. K.....578  
Goudy, J. K.....474  
Grant, Ulysses S.....187

# INDEX.

Griffing, O. W. .... 576  
Griffing, W. A. .... 595  
Grimes, William. .... 108

## H

Hachenberg, Mrs. Manie. .... 522  
Hachenberg, Mrs. Polly. .... 540  
Halderman, Hon. W. J. .... 543  
Hall, John E. .... 295  
Hall, L. G. .... 202  
Hall, Theodore. .... 546  
Hamilton, James S. H. .... 375  
Hammond, R. H. .... 569  
Hankins, W. C. .... 534  
Hansen, E. A. .... 444  
Harmon, George W. .... 284  
Harrington, A. L. .... 496  
Harris, F. A. .... 314  
Harris, W. R. .... 383  
Harrison, Benjamin. .... 107  
Harrison, J. D. .... 466  
Harrison, W. H. .... 51  
Hartwell, Richard. .... 403  
Hassler, A. E. .... 578  
Hauber, Eggert. .... 407  
Hays, Joseph. .... 618  
Hayes, Rutherford B. .... 491  
Hazels, Joseph. .... 598  
Heer, Benjamin. .... 507  
Helmes, Dr. J. E. .... 470  
Henry, James. .... 356  
Hervey, William. .... 392  
Heywood, A. E. .... 505  
Hildebrand, Benjamin F. .... 535  
Hill, James. .... 166  
Hill, W. H. .... 377  
Hitchcock, Caleb. .... 541  
Hitchcock, Col. N. F. .... 342  
Hitchcock, E. Ross. .... 310  
Hitchcock, J. H. .... 251  
Holmes, Hon. Charles A. .... 153  
Holmes, O. M. .... 275  
Holmes, Warren H. .... 225  
Holmes, William H. .... 373  
Hopkins, P. H. .... 199  
Hosick, Lawrence W. .... 399  
Hoteling, D. W. .... 388  
Howard, James N. .... 270  
Howarth, Henry. .... 357  
Howe, O. D. .... 499  
Howe, Rufus. .... 193  
Hunzeker, Henry. .... 427  
Hunzeker, John R. .... 491  
Huston, Robert. .... 239

## I

Iden, G. W. .... 328  
Inglis, Robert. .... 485  
Irwin, Isaac. .... 353  
Izer, John. .... 504

## J

Jackson, Andrew. .... 43  
Jefferson, Thomas. .... 27  
Jenkins, H. S. .... 509  
Jobes, William W. .... 360  
Johnson, Andrew. .... 83  
Jones, Henry W. .... 348  
Jones, James T. .... 210  
Jordan, L. D. .... 517  
Jury, E. G. .... 220

## K

Keiser, John E. .... 445  
Keiser, Nimrod. .... 445  
Kelly, G. W. .... 577  
Kennedy, James. .... 609  
Keplinger, J. W. .... 219  
Kershaw, John. .... 349  
King, Charles L. .... 174  
King, Mrs. Desire J. .... 331  
King, W. L. .... 406  
Kingsbury, Ephraim. .... 620  
Kohn, Frederick. .... 172  
Krause, August. .... 161  
Kuhlman, Diedrich. .... 278

## L

Landwehr, Henry. .... 386  
Lane, A. E. .... 622  
Lawrence, J. A. .... 323  
Layman, Jacob T. .... 524  
Lester, E. L. .... 160  
Libby, William H. .... 316  
Liming, F. F. .... 425  
Lincoln, Abraham. .... 77  
Livingston, Duncan. .... 321  
Luce, Worthy. .... 402  
Luthy, John. .... 442  
Luthy, Simon. .... 441  
Lyman, W. G. .... 437

## M

Macy, John F. .... 274  
Madison, James. .... 31  
Manley, A. F. .... 449  
Marble, H. P. .... 255  
Marrs, Alexander. .... 286  
Matthews, Thomas H. .... 362  
Mavity, Leander P. .... 287  
McCasland, J. N., M. D. .... 456  
McClintock, William. .... 515  
McCure, Thomas. .... 396  
McConnel, John. .... 185  
McCready, R. J. .... 542  
McDannold, John E. .... 354  
McDonald, Richard. .... 545  
Menehan, Thomas. .... 615  
Merrill, H. W. .... 303

Meyer, H. C. F. .... 495  
Milks, T. W. .... 305  
Miller, D. K. .... 614  
Milton, James. .... 532  
Miner, Samuel. .... 178  
Moller, Henry. .... 398  
Menroe, James. .... 45  
Moore, C. W. .... 252  
Moore, S. V. .... 525  
Morley, John. .... 568  
Morrison, Rev. Dr. Marion. .... 563  
Morton, J. B. .... 487  
Morton, Wilburn. .... 159

## N

Nance, Albinus. .... 123  
Neader, Charles. .... 508  
Nelson, Elmer W. .... 302  
Nesbitt, Josiah. .... 597  
Niemann, Wilhelm. .... 293  
Noble, A. B. .... 339  
Norris, Hon. C. H. .... 516

## O

Olmsted, John J. .... 315  
Osford, D. F. .... 165  
Ost, L. E. .... 317  
Otis, Leroy. .... 281

## P

Paine, Orlo. .... 170  
Parker, S. B. .... 304  
Parrish, J. B. .... 608  
Patton, T. M. .... 357  
Payne, B. M. .... 411  
Pence, R. L. .... 194  
Pepoon, Hon. J. B. .... 570  
Pepoon, Hon. T. W. .... 605  
Pepperl, Alvin. .... 498  
Pepperl, Frank. .... 554  
Pepperl, James. .... 586  
Pepperl, Louis. .... 405  
Perry, William W. .... 416  
Phillips, C. S. .... 246  
Phillips, Elihu P. .... 251  
Phillips, J. L. .... 102  
Pierce, Franklin. .... 71  
Pierce, N. D. .... 313  
Platt, Purdy. .... 171  
Pohlentz, Christian. .... 294  
Polk, James K. .... 59  
Pool, Charles W. .... 318  
Potter, G. C. .... 191  
Pratt, John W. .... 222  
Price, John P. .... 397  
Purcell, J. H. .... 601

## R

Raper, Hon. W. B. .... 588  
Redfield, F. A. .... 327

Redfield, W. C. .... 232  
Reed, Almeron. .... 196  
Reed, Mrs. Sarah M. .... 280  
Rees, J. W. .... 477  
Rice, Marcus A. .... 492  
Richardson, Daniel. .... 213  
Richardson, O. P. .... 261  
Robb, Hon. Washington. .... 358  
Robb, H. W. .... 599  
Roberts, C. W. .... 195  
Robinson, C. P. .... 305  
Rogers, L. M. .... 567  
Rogge, Henry. .... 212  
Root, William E. .... 513  
Rothell, Frank. .... 288

## S

Salzman, Andrew. .... 167  
Sampson, Mrs. Elizabeth. .... 169  
Samson, Russell H. .... 558  
Sandifer, Walter E. .... 355  
Sandusky, Wiley. .... 288  
Sapp, George W. .... 233  
Saxenberger, Fred, M. D. .... 571  
Schumann, Henry. .... 302  
Schumann, John D. .... 192  
Scott, R. T. .... 526  
Scott, William. .... 556  
Seip, Charles. .... 561  
Shannon, S. S. .... 552  
Shannon, T. H. .... 531  
Shannon, W. A. .... 536  
Sharrett, John B. .... 301  
Sharrett, Lafayette A. .... 214  
Shaw, Enos M. .... 391  
Shaw, J. W. .... 591  
Shay, James. .... 379  
Shellhorn, Jerome. .... 536  
Shewey, Mrs. Margaret. .... 587  
Smart, Robert. .... 179  
Smith, C. B. .... 194  
Smith, J. N. .... 555  
Smith, Theodore. .... 211  
Souders, Jonathan. .... 310  
Souders, William A. .... 403  
Sovereign, Abraham. .... 436  
Stanton, Michael. .... 224  
Starkey, W. C. .... 574  
Stevens, Peter. .... 581  
Stewart, J. T. .... 612  
Stewart, Malcolm, M. D. .... 416  
Stoltenberg, James. .... 261  
Strong, H. B. .... 401  
Sullivan, A. C. .... 155  
Sutton, William. .... 497  
Sutton, William. .... 397  
Swallow, John P. .... 459  
Swart, A. H. .... 277

## T

Talcott, William H. .... 269  
Taylor, F. H. .... 435  
Taylor, Franklin. .... 361



## INDEX.

Taylor, W. L. .... 625  
 Taylor, Zachary..... 63  
 Thayer, John M. .... 131  
 Thompson, J. M. .... 312  
 Tillotson, James ..... 562  
 Turman, Z. B. .... 583  
 Tyler, John..... 55

### V

Van Buren, Martin..... 47  
 Van Ness, W. G. .... 175

Vedder, R. L. .... 490  
 Vetter, J. J. .... 204

### W

Walker, Marcus..... 298  
 Walker, Hon. M. K. .... 589  
 Wallace, J. H. .... 623  
 Warner, D. S. .... 409  
 Washburn, F. E. .... 482  
 Washington, George..... 19  
 Watson, Ann E. .... 311

Webb, James..... 173  
 Welch, G. W. .... 501  
 Whaley, John..... 461  
 Wheeler, Ephraim ..... 559  
 White, William..... 611  
 Whitham, Joseph..... 369  
 Whitney, John R. .... 337  
 Wilkinson, Charles..... 213  
 Williamson, A. M. .... 405  
 Wilson, C. M. .... 319  
 Wilson, David J. .... 190  
 Wilson, Judge John..... 184  
 Winters, Lewis..... 237  
 Wolff, Julius..... 187  
 Wood, Edgar..... 502

Wood, John C. .... 583  
 Woodley, Cornelius..... 177

### Y

Young, J. L. .... 209  
 Young, William M. .... 221

### Z

Zinsmaster, Jacob J. .... 274

## PORTRAITS

Adams, John..... 22  
 Adams, John Q. .... 38  
 Arthur, Chester A. .... 98  
 Baker, Benjamin J. .... 182  
 Buchanan, James..... 74  
 Butler, David..... 110  
 Cleveland, S. Grover..... 102  
 Dawes, James W. .... 126  
 Dickinson, H. S. .... 530  
 Edwards, T. J. .... 290

Fillmore, Millard..... 66  
 Flanagan, John ..... 548  
 Flanagan, Mrs. Sarah J. .... 548  
 Furnas, Robert W. .... 114  
 Garber, Silas..... 118  
 Garfield, James A. .... 94  
 Grant, Ulysses S. .... 86  
 Harrison, Benjamin..... 106  
 Harrison, William H. .... 50  
 Hayes, Rutherford B. .... 90

Holmes, Hon. C. A. .... 152  
 Jackson, Andrew..... 42  
 Jefferson, Thomas..... 26  
 Johnson, Andrew..... 82  
 Loring, Fielding F. .... 424  
 Lincoln, Abraham..... 78  
 Madison, James..... 30  
 Marble, H. P. .... 254  
 Monroe, James..... 34  
 Nance, Albinus..... 122

Pierce, Franklin ..... 70  
 Polk, James K. .... 58  
 Redfield, F. A. .... 326  
 Rogers, L. M. .... 566  
 Swallow, John P. .... 458  
 Taylor, Zachary..... 62  
 Thayer, John M. .... 130  
 Tyler, John..... 54  
 Van Buren, Martin..... 46  
 Washington, George..... 18

## Views.

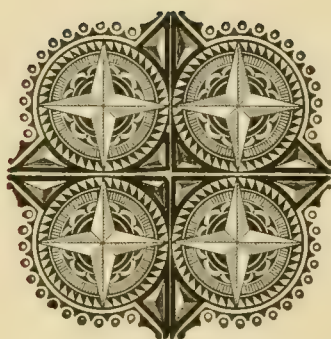
Barret, J. E. .... 364  
 Beethe, Carl Henry... .. 308  
 Brown, E. A. .... 364  
 Cathcart, J. M. .... 346  
 Curry, R. F. .... 236  
 Finzer, Jacob..... 345  
 Frank, C. F. .... 440

Frank, W. A. .... 476  
 Fuller, William..... 335  
 Harris, W. R. .... 382  
 Holmes, O. M. .... 272  
 Jones, H. W. .... 346  
 Jury, E. G. .... 218  
 Keplinger, J. W. .... 218

Luthy, John ..... 440  
 Luthy, Simon..... 440  
 Macey, J. F. .... 272  
 McClintock, William, .. 512  
 Rees, J. W. .... 426  
 Richardson, Daniel..... 207  
 Root, W. E. .... 512

Sharrett, L. A. .... 207  
 Sonders, Jonathan..... 308  
 Whitney, J. R. .... 335  
 Wilkinson, Charles ..... 207  
 Winters, L. .... 236  
 Zinsmaster, J. J. .... 272





























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